GERMANS IN LIBYA STOPPED

See Page 2

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FIERCE NAZI ATTACKS ON ALLIED POSITIONS

Wishful German Thinking In Break Through Rumour

THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION FROM THE GREEK OR BRITISH COMMANDS IN GREECE OF A RUMOUR DERIVED FROM GERMAN SOURCES THAT THE ALLIED LINE HAS BEEN BROKEN IN THE MOUNT OLYMPUS SECTOR AND THAT THE PLAIN OF LARISSA, IN CONSEQUENCE, HAS BEEN LAID OPEN TO THE GERMAN ADVANCE, SAYS A BRITISH WAR OFFICE COMMUNIQUE.

Heavy fighting, however, is taking place in more than one sector of the Allied line, the communique adds.

Well-informed circles in Cairo stated yesterday that operations in Greece consist mainly of "feeling forward" by the Germans, who are endeavouring to ascertain the disposition of the British forces by means of patrols.

There are no signs yet of a major attack, it was added.

The battle in Western Macedonia which began on Monday, is now in full progress, Athens radio said last night.

The announcer added that the Greek army has inflicted serious losses on the Germans.

After their slight push westwards on Monday the Germans tried to make further progress on Tuesday and brought very considerable forces into play, supported by the German air force.

New Line Not Pierced

The announcer quoted a Greek Press Ministry bulletin which said: "All ordered movements of our forces in taking up their new positions were effected without loss.

"British and Imperial forces, cooperating with the Greek army, succeeded in repulsing German mechanised columns at many points and inflicted considerable damage on the enemy.

(Continued on Page 16)

DUKE OF AOSTA SUING FOR SURRENDER?

It was learned in well-informed quarters in Cairo yesterday that an envoy of the Duke of Aosta, Viceroy of Abyssinia, has arrived at the headquarters of General Cunningham, who is directing British operations in East Africa.—Reuter.

ENTIRE CONVOY TRAPPED BY NAVY

See Page 3

PETAIN STOPS DARLAN

Marshal Petain, according to reports reaching Washington, recently thwarted Admiral Darlan when the latter attempted one of his anti-British programmes.

These reports, which are confirmed from two high sources, declare that Marshal Petain, having learned accidentally that Darlan had given orders for French Fleet units, including the battleship "Dunkerque," to be moved from North Africa to Toulon, summoned Darlan to give an explanation.

Darlan is stated to have replied evasively and then to have launched into an anti-British tirade.

Marshal Petain thereupon issued special written instructions forbidding the movement of any French warship without his prior knowledge.—Reuter.

R.A.F. SHATTERS LUFTWAFFE IN GREECE

(By Reuter's Correspondent in Greece)

BRITISH PILOTS ARE FIGHTING HERE WITH FEARLESS FEROCITY AGAINST GOERING'S LUFTWAFFE.

In the short time since the Germans started their latest aggression in the Balkans one R.A.F. squadron alone has brought down 100 German 'planes.

One young British pilot officer has bagged five German 'planes in the last three days.

SALIENT FACT IN THE PRESENT AIR WAR OVER GREECE IS THAT THE GERMANS ARE EMPLOYING A LARGE FLEET OF DIVE-BOMBERS IN ATTACKS ON IMPERIAL TROOPS AND HARBOURS. BUT MANY BOMBS ARE FALLING HARMLESSLY ON MOUNTAINSIDES OR IN THE SEA, FOR NO AIRCRAFT CAN POSSIBLY CONCENTRATE ON BOMB AIMING WHEN A SPEEDY BRITISH HAWKER HURRICANE FIGHTER PERSISTENTLY ATTACKS CLOSE TO ITS TAIL.

Result of all these air battles has been a considerable depletion of the German dive-bombers.—Reuter.

EIGHT FOR THE NIGHT

It was learned in London yesterday that two more enemy bombers were destroyed over England on Tuesday night, making a total of eight for the night.—Reuter.

MERSEY FIRE BLITZ

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Thousands of firebombs, mingled with high explosives, were dumped on Liverpool during Tuesday night as German raiders carried out one of the war's most widespread attacks on Britain.

Casualties are reported both in Liverpool and London.

Blazing A.A. fire from defence posts all over Britain accounted for at least two Nazi 'planes.

Throughout the evening great fleets of Nazi aircraft were beaten off as they struck across the British coast, but many penetrated the outer British defences and bombed London and a dozen other sections.

A stick of high explosive bombs dropped on one section of the capital by high-flying raiders caused several casualties and buried several persons under debris.—International News Service.

HITLER'S BALKAN FOLLY

Anne McCormick, the New York columnist, says the Balkan campaign is costing Hitler more than it will be worth if he wins.

What will Germany gain on this peninsula that she has not had before? she asks. Britain may lose her toe-hold on the Continent, which will not affect the war's outcome.

The Yugoslavs and Greeks may suffer what they suffered yesterday and come back stronger than ever.

But the Germans are paying heavily for what they expected to be delivered gratis.

The most the Nazis can win is two more hostile populations to police, more sabotage and reduced supplies.

The labour that served them has been diverted to fighting, and damaged towns, railways and farmlands will take months to repair.—Reuter.

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German Advance Through Libya Brought To A Halt

COVENTRY MOURNS BLITZ VICTIMS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Three thousand mourners followed a long line of coffins through the blitzed streets of Coventry as the town held another mass burial service for those killed in the latest German raid

It is reported that another mass burial is pending, indication of the terrific toll taken in the latest German blitz International News Service

NORWEGIAN COAST RAID

The Norwegian Admiralty in London yesterday revealed the name of the place on the Norwegian coast which was successfully raided last Saturday.

It was Oek Fjord, near Hammerfest

The statement adds that the object of the raid was to destroy the fish oil factory, the output of which was being taken by Germany and which was of great importance in the manufacture of explosive.

All machinery in the factory was destroyed

There was no interference from German troops, aircraft or warships.—Reuter

GIANT 'PLANES FOR SINGAPORE

The famous American flier, Clyde Pangbourn, who was the first to fly the Pacific from Japan to the United States, and Bert Balchen, pilot of Admiral Byrd's South Pole expedition, formed part of the crew which flew a Consolidated PBY type giant bomber from the United States to the naval base at Cavite, Philippines.

This is revealed in a despatch from the Manila correspondent of Domei who adds a second similar 'plane has arrived at Cavite and is now being prepared for transfer to the British.

The correspondent says British pilots are on the way from Singapore to take over the 'planes and fly them to the Singapore base.—Reuter.

RICKENBACKER ON WAY TO HEALTH

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was announced in Atlanta yesterday that Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, the American World War ace, who was critically injured in a 'plane crash six weeks ago, will probably leave hospital before the end of next month.—International News Service.

HUNDREDS OF EXHAUSTED PRISONERS TAKEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BRITISH QUARTERS in Cairo reported that the swift German and Italian advance into Egypt from Libya has finally been stopped.

Suffering from lack of water and food and exhausted by the swift campaign in the Libyan desert inferno, the German mechanised troops have been halted by the stone wall of British defences east of Sollum, according to army circles.

Hundreds of German prisoners, unaccustomed to fighting under harsh desert conditions, were found to be in "the last stages of exhaustion" when taken outside Tobruk, in the first important British counter-attack in the present phase of the war.

The Germans said they had been without food and water for days and lacked the strength to obey orders for another swift advance.

While attacking Tobruk in an attempt to rescue the British garrison there Imperial troops have taken up strong defensive positions between Sollum and Mersa Matruh International News Service

Situation Stationary

The Libyan situation has been stationary for the last four days, according to well-informed circles in Cairo yesterday.

While patrol activity continues in the Sollum area, on the Egyptian border, there has been occasional hard fighting. Enemy losses run into hundreds, it is stated.

There is no indication that the Nazis have increased the strength of their forward units Reuter.

CANADIAN PREMIER'S QUEST

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Premier, who has gone to Washington to confer with President Roosevelt, had a long conversation with the U.S. Minister, Mr. Pierrepont Moffat, before leaving.

It has been tentatively arranged for Mr. King and President Roosevelt to journey together to Warm Springs for their conference.

It is understood that one of the chief subjects to be discussed will be the setting up of a "credit account" under the Lease and Lend Act for Canadian war purchases in the United States, now running at the rate of a billion dollars a year.—International News Service.

Tea At White House

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, who was expected in Washington yesterday, was invited to tea at the White House by President Roosevelt.

Over the tea cups it was expected the two statesmen would hold a highly important conference bearing upon war problems. — Reuter.

SOVIET TO SUPPLY BELGIUM

An agreement by which Russia will supply Belgium in the next 12 months with very substantial quantities of wheat and fats, was reached in Moscow yesterday. Reuter learns in London.

This agreement, presumably reached with German approval, will go far towards meeting the food shortage in Belgium, which is suffering more than any other western country.

The Russo-Belgian agreement is held in British official circles as justifying the official view that the blockade must be applied to enemy-occupied countries, firstly because the responsibility of feeding them is Germany's, and secondly, because British firmness evidently resulted in the Russo-Belgian agreement, which deprives Germany of supplies which she otherwise would have had.

It is understood that Belgium in return will supply Russia with engineering products. Reuter.

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN BADLANDS

A Chinese was shot dead and another seriously wounded early this morning in a terrorist shooting in the Shanghai "badlands."

The outrage is reported to have occurred in a dormitory occupied by Bank of China employees and is believed to be a reprisal for the shooting of an employee of the Central Reserve Bank yesterday. —Reuter.

Dr. Dafoe Operated On

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

IT WAS REVEALED IN NORTH BAY (ONTARIO) YESTERDAY THAT DR. A. R. DAFOE, THE QUINTS' SURGEON, UNDERWENT A MAJOR OPERATION IN TORONTO.

His brother, Dr. W. A. Dafoe, said his condition was satisfactory and his chances good, though a blood transfusion had to be given him.—International News Service.

ROOSEVELT CONDEMNS HUNGARY

President Roosevelt proclaimed yesterday that a state of war exists between Hungary and Yugoslavia, and added that Hungary attacked Yugoslavia "without justification."

Effect of the proclamation is to place these two nations under the United States Neutrality regulations.- -Reuter.

HUNGARIAN INVASION BOMBAST

The progress of the Hungarian invasion of Yugoslavia is recorded in a High Command communique from Budapest. It states: "Our troops today occupied the southwestern portion of trans-Danubia up to the Croat frontier.

"Mopping up of the region between the Rivers Danube and Tisza and the enumeration of war prisoners and booty is proceeding.

"According to present indications the number of prisoners totals 15,000 and is increasing. The booty includes about 100 guns and very valuable material."—Reuter.

ALL WILL BE WELL

In The End

"Have faith in Yugoslavia and in my son and all will be well in the end," was the message which Queen Marie of Yugoslavia gave to Reuter when interviewed yesterday in her 13th Century cottage in England.

The Queen declared King Peter took the decision to fight rather than surrender without consulting her, but his decision was not unexpected to her, seeing that he always placed his country's interests before everything.

The Queen, who was lying on a couch wrapped up in a rug, said how sorry she was that illness had prevented her being at her son's side and sharing his hardships while their country was fighting for its life.

She had been a little worried when for a week she received no news from King Peter but after Belgrade was bombed she heard he was safe and well.—Reuter.

FAMOUS BROKER NOW A PRIVATE

WITH HIS SALARY DROPPING FROM $48,000 A YEAR TO $21 A MONTH, MR. W. M. MARTIN, JR., PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, YESTERDAY BECAME A PRIVATE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

MARTIN EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD ENTER THE WAR. — REUTER.

TWO GERMAN SPEARHEADS IN GREEK THRUST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

ALTHOUGH THE GERMAN ADVANCE, CONSISTING OF TWO SPEAR-HEADS, HAS PUSHED 40 MILES INTO GREECE, THE ITALIAN TROOPS ON THE ALBANIAN FRONT WHO FOLLOWED UP THE RETIRING GREEKS SUFFERED "SERIOUS LOSSES" WHEN THE HELLENIC WARRIORS TURNED ON THE FOE IN FURIOUS REARGUARD FIGHTS.

Covered by successful counter-attacks the Greeks and British all along the northern Greek front have completed the falling back operations in perfect order to strongly fortified positions for the decisive battle of the new Olympic Line.

It was admitted in Athens that fast-moving German armoured units have reached the western outlet of the Siatista Pass, 12 miles south-west of the strategic town of Kozani.

Other Nazi units attacking another sector of the Anglo-Greek line nearby have occupied Klissura Pass, which is 20 miles north of the town of Siatista.—International News Service.

MORE PRISONERS REACH S. AFRICA

A further batch of 2,500 Italian prisoners, including officers, were landed at a port in the Union of South Africa yesterday. Enemy prisoners in the Union now total 10,000. — Reuter.

ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY TRAPPED

Five Supply Ships And Three Destroyers Sunk

Ammunition Ship Goes Up With Terrific Explosion

AN ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY, CONSISTING OF FIVE SUPPLY SHIPS, ESCORTED BY THREE DESTROYERS, AND BOUND FROM SICILY FOR TRIPOLI, WAS SUNK ON TUESDAY NIGHT BY BRITISH NAVAL FORCES.

Announcing this in London yesterday the Admiralty states: "Two of the supply ships were vessels of about 5,000 tons, heavily laden with motor transport. These were sunk.

"Another was an ammunition ship of about 4,000 tons which blew up with a terrific explosion. The other two ships, of about 3,000 tons, also blew up.

"THE CONVOY WAS ESCORTED BY THE ITALIAN DESTROYER "LUCA TARIGO," OF 1,628 TONS, AND TWO SMALLER DESTROYERS. ALL THREE WERE SUNK

"The Admiralty regret to announce that during this successful operation H.M.S. Mohawk was hit by torpedoes and sunk.

The majority of the ship's complement including the commanding officer, were rescued." Reuter

Mohawk was a destroyer of 1,870 tons and was commissioned in 1938. She carried eight 4.7 inch guns.

SANG WHEN BOMBED

Cinema-goers in a packed theatre at Swansea whistled and sang when an explosive incendiary bomb crashed through the roof and made a loud report behind the stage.

It put the talkie apparatus out of action and stopped the show, but the audience remained calm.

While they sang, a high-explosive bomb demolished a house across the street.

Bombers came over in a stream during the raid, which occurred at night and lasted several hours.

They dropped showers of incendiaries, but high-speed work by the fire-fighters foiled the raiders' attempts to start beacons, and following raiders had to light parachute flares.

Many people are known to have been killed and a large number injured. Several hundred people are homeless.

A direct hit was made on a large hospital and two patients were killed and five injured.

Two A.R.P. workers were killed when tackling fire bombs.

U.S. SHIP STOPPED BY RAIDER

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stopped two days out of Lisbon by a ship believed to be a German raider, the American Export liner "Cambion" has arrived in New York with 189 passengers on board, of whom 75 were American.—International News Service.

SKY ARMY OF ALL ACES

[BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT]

Men drawn from all branches of the Army make up Britain's parachute troops. The county regiments, the Tank Corps and the Pioneer Corps are all represented.

They received intensive preparation for the job. During the first months they did not go up in a 'plane they were given lecture after lecture on every detail of the required strategy.

Then came the physical training. Week after week they marched in full kit. They practised swimming in uniform. They did rock-climbing.

ing.

At this stage many were weeded out because they did not come up to the necessary standard of endurance.

Only the very finest, mentally and physically, would do for this new Army.

There have been thousands of volunteers.

Special Badge

You will be able to recognise Britain's paratroops whenever you meet them.

They will be wearing a special badge on the arm. It shows a white parachute with blue wings—similar to those of the R.A.F.—on either side.

Last night I met the man who taught the paratroops who jumped in Italy. He made his first parachute jump him only six months ago.

But tall, slimly-built Squadron-Leader L. A. Strange, D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C., who began his flying in 1908, has always demanded action.

He soldiered during the last war as a major with the Dorsetshire Regiment. Later he was transferred to the R.F.C., became a wing-commander. Before the outbreak of the present war he was closely associated with Whitney Straight, the racing motorist and aeroplane enthusiast.

He took up his Service career again in this war as a pilot-officer, but, in the words of a colleague, "he got so fed up with the way things were moving that he went to the Air Ministry. They said, "Right, we'll give you a job.' And they did."

Squadron-Leader Strange took to his new job of training parachute troops with zest.

"There's nothing in parachuting," Squadron-Leader Strange told me.

"The parachute is opened automatically and the men leave the troop-carrying 'plane according to a set drill.

"The real job before parachute troops awaits them when they get on the ground."

NAZI WAR ON THE CHURCH

The anti-Catholic activities of Nazi Germany were condemned last night by the Vatican radio.

The announcer said that since 1933 the Catholic Church in Germany had lost all its schools, ecclesiastical organisations and newspapers except for a few weeklies which were unable to answer Nazi attacks on the Catholic religion.

Everything was being done to eliminate Catholic teachers from the National-Socialist system.

Under a decree just issued all wishing to enter Holy Orders had first to join a labour camp from which they could not get away without permission.

"This will be the end of religion in Germany," the announcer concluded Reuter.

REPUDIATE THEIR OWN PROPAGANDA!

Rumours current abroad of negotiations being conducted for a cessation of hostilities in the Balkans, are not confirmed by political circles in Berlin, said a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman in the Nazi capital yesterday.

A semi-official statement says: "It is doubtful whether there are any quarters in Serbia which would be able to negotiate an authoritative agreement on this score.

"Military events in Serbia have entered a stage where an armistice is out of the question as," so claimed the Nazi spokesman, "the Serbian army, as such, is completely annihilated."—Reuter.

STOCK EXCHANGE VERY QUIET

The London Stock Exchange ruled very quiet yesterday with price movements narrowly irregular and operators inclined to mark time in view of the uncertain war news. Gilt-edged and home rails tended easier but industrials mostly were well maintained and oils were steady apart from 2/6d fall in Anglo-Egyptian to 42/6. Foreign issues were easier, with declines recorded in Chinese, Japanese, Brazilian and Egyptian bonds. Wall Street was very quiet.—Reuter.

U.S. NOT INTERVENING WITH EIRE

Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, indicated yesterday that the U.S. Government has no intenfion of asking Eire to grant naval bases to Britain.

He said that contrary to various rumours there had been no discussion, much less negotiation, on the question with Eire officials in Washington.—Reuter.

Britain's Ace Night Pilot

The British pilot of a night-fighter shot down no fewer than three German bombers on Tuesday night, the Air Ministry announces.

This ace, who recently was awarded the D.F.C. and was promoted commander of his squadron for marked ability in night fighting, has now destroyed 10 nocturnal raiders.

A fellow pilot shot down two, bringing the squadron's total bag to five.—Reuter.

U.S. ARMY AGE LIMIT PROBLEM

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

President Roosevelt revealed that he is studying proposals to lower the age limits for selective service in the Army but no decision is likely to be made until September.

Official quarters think the new limits will be 18 to 25 years.—International News Service.

COLIMA QUAKE DISASTER

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Scores were killed and more than 500 injured in the city of Colima, on the west coast of Mexico, when the violent earthquake felt throughout Mexico levelled the city and left it in ruins.

Half the city was destroyed by the 'quake and scores of fires broke out, threatening the remainder.

The volcano of Colima, only 25 miles north of the city erupted violently, adding to the dangers threatening the stricken populace of 30,000 International News Service.

Worse Than Feared!

Most of the 15,000 inhabitants of Colima are believed to be either killed or injured, states a Reuter despatch from Mexico City.

Three-quarters of the town are reported to have been destroyed in the 'quake.—Reuter.

GERMAN DEMAND IN U.S.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

GERMANY FIRED A NEW ROUND IN THE AXIS BOMBARDMENT OF PROTESTS AGAINST THE SEIZURE OF 30 GERMAN AND ITALIAN SHIPS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHEN SHE LODGED A DEMAND WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE MOTORSHIP "ARAUCA," TAKEN OVER AT PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA.

The Italian Government has already filed four protests over the seizure of 28 Fascist vessels.—International News Service.

HE SOLVES PILOTS' PROBLEMS

A MAN IN R.A.F. uniform went to Buckingham Palace. He saluted the King. With a smile the King acknowledged the salute and handed him the Order of the Bath, Military Division. It was a recognition of the stirring deeds of the man responsible for organising R.A.F. fighters which beat back the great German air attacks on London and South-East England.

The man in the blue uniform was Air Vice-Marshal Keith Rodney Park. He leaves his desk and flies his own Hurricane to find out for himself the problems of his pilots

On one occasion he was forced down by a British pilot who suspected that the Hurricane might have been one the Germans had captured and had put into the air for reconnaissance.

During the evacuation of Dunkirk Air Vice-Marshal Park went by air to see what was happening and how he could help.

It was largely his action which enabled fighter command squadrons to break up so many bomber attacks before they could even reach Dunkirk.

When the evacuation was completed and the last two ships were leaving the harbour, his Hurricane was the last British fighter on patrol.

He was also "in" on the evacuation from Cherbourg. Again his was the last British fighter to patrol there.

He also organised squadrons to protect Holland, Belgium, and France when the Nazis invaded the Low Countries.

Air Vice-Marshal Park, aged 48, was a leading ace in the last war. He was A.D.C. to the King during the Coronation and rode behind the King on Coronation Day.

While air attache in Buenos Aires he met Miss Parrish, a member of a British family in the Argentine.

They were married.

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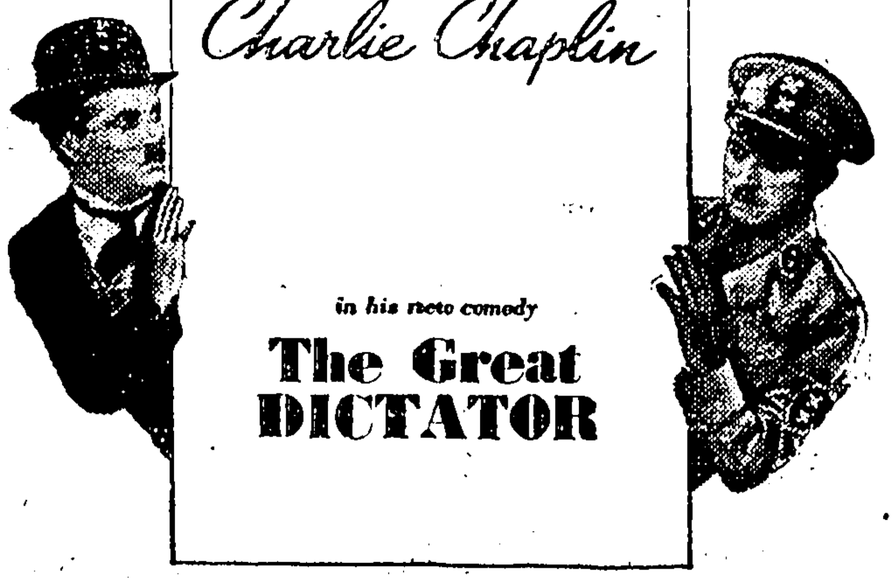

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BRITISH WARSHIP REPAIR PRIORITY

British warships brought to the United States for repairs are given priority over everything else in Navy yards, declared Col. Frank Knox, Secretary for Navy, to his press conference in Washington yesterday.

This would inevitably affect the Navy's own shipbuilding programme but he hoped the two-ocean navy would not be delayed as a result.

Col. Knox said the British battleship Malaya, which recently arrived in New York, was only the first of a number of vessels expected to enter United States harbours for repairs.

While saying it would be highly improper to discuss the possibility of the U.S. Navy convoying forces to Greenland Col. Knox hinted that the Navy had such plans in mind by declaring: "Every well-run Navy tries to have a plan for every contingency, and this is such a contingency." Reuter.

NEW FACES IN THEIR LUGGAGE

The Government's glamour girls—mannequins chosen to go to South America with Britain's hush-hush model dress display—will be taking a change of complexion with them. "New faces," packed in air-tight containers, will be part of their luggage.

Some of them are taking three or four shades of complexions which will enable them gradually to tone their faces to the changed climate.

Blonde expert Thelma Besant also has "travelled the world for a secret British cosmetic formula" which is responsible for some of the mannequins' face changes.

The Right Tone

"There is nothing like the change of climate for changing the natural colour of your complexion," she told a reporter.

"Some go a bronzy shade, some the duller shade of brown. You can judge what types turn what shades. It is just a matter of finding the right tone of make-up and a tone to match personality, eye and hair colours.

"The treatment of skins should vary, too, according to climate."

FIRST WEDDING IN CONVENT

Veronica Bryham Oliver, now twenty-two, went from South Africa to school at St. Catherine's Convent, Lauriston Gardens, Edinburgh.

At her special wish she was married in the convent chapel to Second - Lieutenant William Drummond Young, of Edinburgh. It was the first wedding ever celebrated in the convent.

The bridegroom had only twenty-four hours' leave from his Royal Artillery unit, and left for England soon after his wedding. The wedding was performed by Father Eustace Dudley.

BIG FRENCH HOTEL FIRE

A fire destroyed the Grand Hotel Britannia at Carnac Plage, near Lorient, the official German news agency stated quoting a message from Paris.—Reuter.

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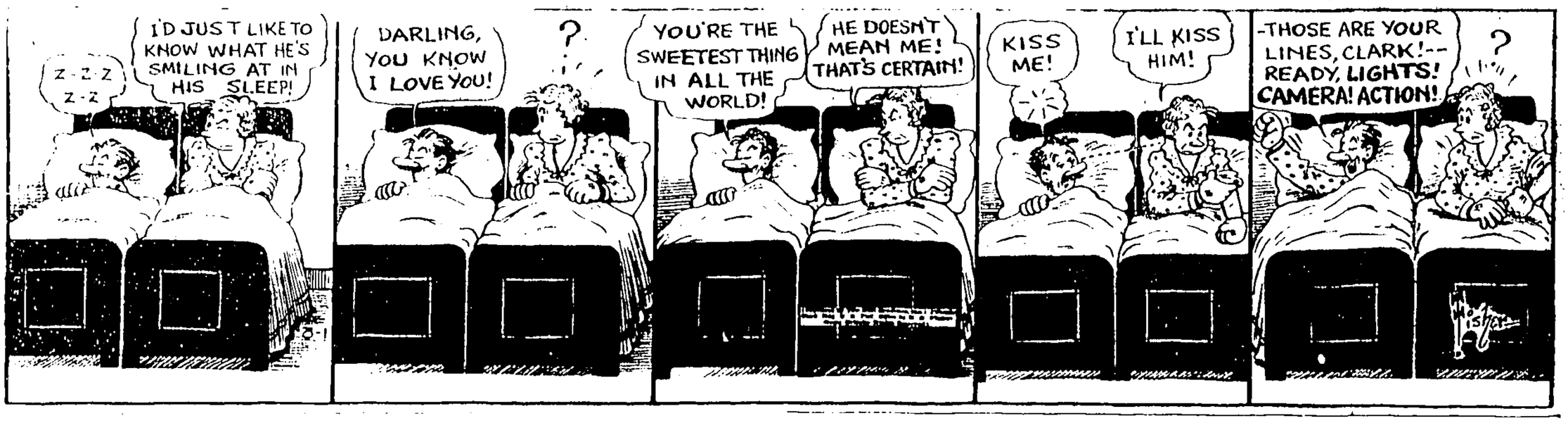
By BUD FISHER



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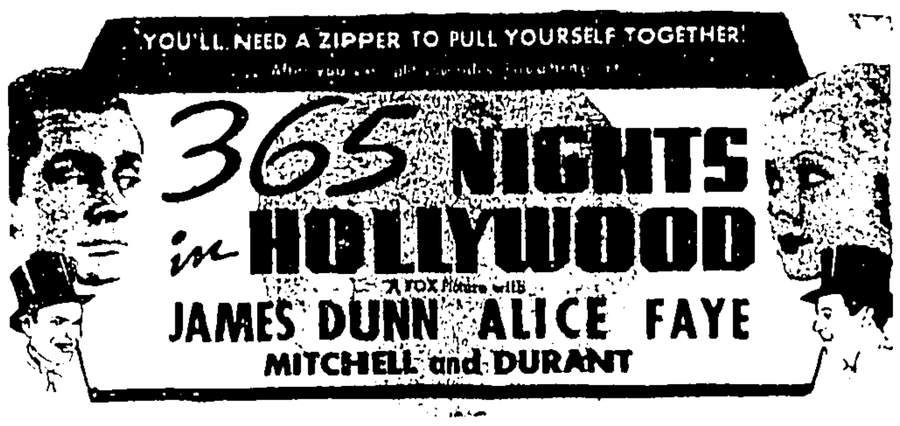

TO-MORROW ONLY — "GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDAL" — Alice Faye — Eleanor Powell

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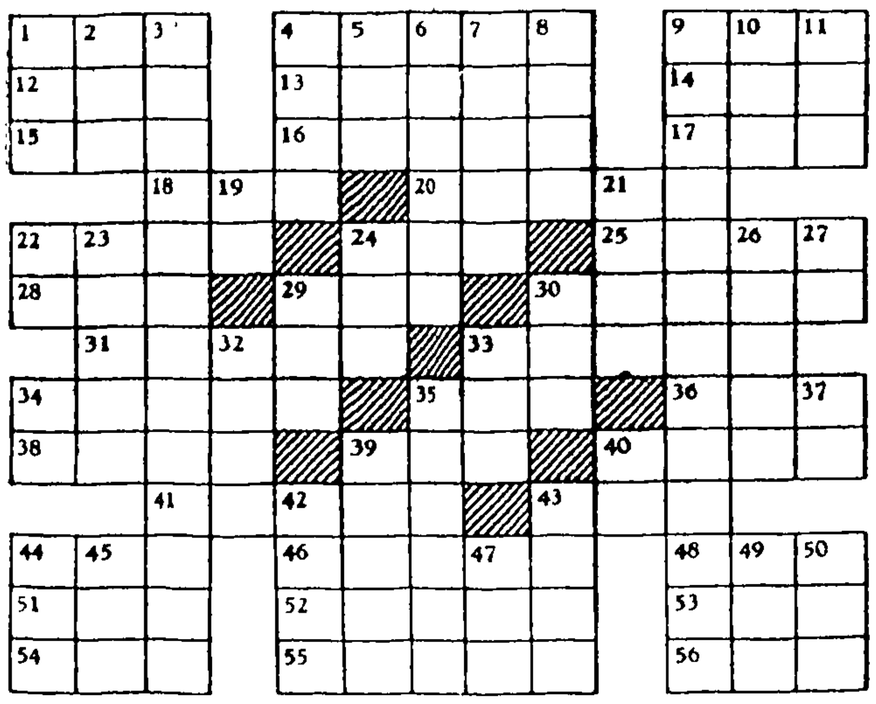
OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



HORIZONTAL

1 Seed covering
4 Examinations
9 Church seat
12 Beverage
13 Memento
14 High note
15 Used to be
16 Girl's name
17 Beam
18 Young dog
20 Moves quickly
22 Egyptian deity
24 Chess pieces
25 Poisonous tree
28 Pouch
29 Ethiopian title
30 To incite
31 Moorish drum
33 English coins
34 Fanatical
35 Cereal grass
36 Constellation
38 Wife of Geraint
39 To irritate
40 Does
41 Even
43 Hawaiian dish
44 Silkworm
46 Angry
48 Poetic: to unclose
51 Rodent
52 Compound ether
53 Vase
54 Some
55 Cut of meat
56 Earth

VERTICAL

1 Animal's foot
2 Palm leaf
3 Contemptibleness
4 Snare
5 Poetic: nightfall
6 Slips
7 Giant
8 Cicatrix
9 Clear-sighted
10 Guido's high note
11 Manner
19 You and me
21 To change
22 Exists
23 The devil
24 To disfigure
26 To ward off
27 Compass point
29 Length measure
30 River in England
32 To tolerate
33 To test in fineness and weight
34 Note of scale
35 To tell
37 While
39 Russian measure of length
40 Indo-Chinese language
42 Conchus
43 To lift quickly
44 Epoch
45 Shed
47 Beverage
49 Prefix: in
50 Finish. favour of

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

A	P	T		E	R	N		A	J	A	R	
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R	E	N	D		A	N	Y		E	N	D	S

DISASTROUS JAPANESE FIRE OUTBREAK

Altogether 820 houses were burned down and 5,000 rendered homeless by a fire at a town in Toyama district, 180 miles north-west of Tokyo, says Reuter from the Japanese capital

PUT IN WELL— THRASHED

A six-year-old evacuee boy was twice lowered into a 25ft. well on a lonely Cornish farm and "left dangling there screaming with fright," it was stated at Penzance.

Lilian Trembath, of Springs Farm, St. Just, and a juvenile defendant were accused of ill-treating the boy, Albert White, of Stepney, E. The woman was also accused of causing the child to be ill-treated. The woman was fined £7 and the juvenile £5.

Prosecuting for the N.S.P.C.C., Mr. J. C. Hubbard said three children were billeted at the farm. They were all treated with great unkindness.

The little boy was thrashed with a dog whip by the juvenile defendant, and on the morning he was leaving the place the boy was kicked downstairs, presumably because he was not going fast enough.

Drowning Danger

When he told how the boy had been lowered into the well, Mr. Hubbard added: "Had he slipped, he would, of course, have been drowned."

Inspector Fletcher, of the N.S.P.C.C., said that when he saw Mrs. Trembath, she said: "Why should we have these damned kids-- these Londoners?"

TO BANISH WASTE IN THE ARMY

To seek out and eliminate waste in the use of food and stores in the hands of the troops will be the chief job of Major-General J. Buckley, D.S.O.

His appointment by the War Office as a Controller-General of Economy under the Quartermaster-General of the Forces har been announced.

Another of his tasks will be to investigate the possibility of abandoning the high standard of material which has made British products world-famous in favour of less costly materials without sacrificing efficiency.

Major-General Buckley's reputation as an efficiency expert is international.

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DISCORD IN JAPAN GROWS AS

ARMY DRAGS NATION NEAR TO WAR

(This is the second of six uncensored articles appearing in the "Manila Bulletin" on the Pacific "war of nerves" as seen from within Japan by an American observer).

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, Japan has presented a facade of solidarity before the world to hide a bitter and almost continuous internal division.

The cleavage between the "military mind" and the "international mind" is even sharper to-day as the islands stand on the edge of a decision that may mean erasure of the Japanese empire.

Despite the expressions of infinite loyalty and patriotism which pour endlessly out of Tokyo, domestic discord is one of the major reasons why army extremists have staked out a claim on the rich areas of south-eastern Asia and the South Seas.

The division has become greater as the army drags the nation closer to war with the United States—a war which so-called conservative elements in the islands believe would reduce Japan to beggary.

But, paradoxical as it may seem, if such a war occurs Japan probably would become completely united for the first time since the dictators of the Shogunate.

The "emergency period" within Japan began in 1931 when Kwangtung and Korean division officers precipitated the Manchurian incident without troubling to notify Tokyo beforehand. This was the "big putsch" by the "younger officers" to give the army political mastery of Japan through imperialism.

The campaign continued through subsequent clashes in China, leading to the outbreak of the China affair in July 1937. The army rode high during the first two years of that war.

Historic Urge

Now, these officers are looking toward further conquests, despite the risks involved in a South Seas campaign and in disregard of continuing China warfare. There are a variety of political and economic factors impelling the "southward march," in addition to Japan's historic urge for empire.

Not the least of these is the army's desire to gloss over its failures in China and to maintain its domestic control by diverting public attention toward a new field. The navy would be forced to undertake the hazardous southern campaign. The navy also must assume responsibility for defending Japan proper, if Russia chooses to strike.

Success in new imperialism would indirectly benefit the army, which originated the drive "to obtain the raw materials which nature denied our islands." Failure is something the "military mind" never contemplates.

The situation, of course, has intensified the traditional rivalry between the army and the navy, which has existed since the Restoration, when officers of the two services were drawn from rival clans. Furthermore, the navy on the whole is more intelligent, more widely travelled and more alert to the tremendous risks involved in any push southward.

Navy Acts As Brake

The navy, so far, has applied a partial brake to the vigorous expansionist schemes of the more radical army officers, primarily because fleet leaders dread war with the United States.

In this, the navy has the active support of more conservative army officers in Tokyo, a substantial section of powerful industrial figures, and more cautious bureaucrats, including Premier Prince Funimaro Konoye. Surprisingly enough, the latter group is often supported by the brilliant but ambitious and unpredictable foreign minister—Yosuke Matsuoka.

This does not mean that all naval officers advocate restraint. The fleet originated the "southward scheme" many years ago, sensing that the South Seas presented a richer field than Manchuria, where the army was interested. The 1931 coup turned Japan northward and delayed the southern plan until the present, when it is impracticable although possibly essential.

Eye On U.S.

The fleet's reluctance to act now is based on a sincere regard for the American navy's prowess, plus the brief that Russia would take advantage of the situation to attack the islands, which the navy is pledged to defend.

Navy discipline is excellent. So the entire service conforms when the Tokyo staff officers agree on a policy, regardless of whatever arguments may have been provoked previously while plans were under discussion. At present, the navy seems decided upon assistance to the army in consolidating positions in French Indo-China and in moving cautiously against Great Britain, through Thailand and by a constant threat against Hong Kong. That they want to avoid immediate friction with the United States is underlined by the fact that the bulk of the fleet's striking power is now in Japanese waters, off Kyushu island, for "manoeuvres."

The army comes from a different strain. Its officers for the most part are educated in Japan and Germany, whereas the navy travels to Britain and the United States. Army officers accept Prussianism as the modern equivalent of the vastly overrated code of the old samurai, or two-sword feudal mercenaries.

Discipline in the Japanese army is shockingly bad. Tokyo has comparatively little control over staff headquarters in Nanking and Hsinking, which in turn can hold field officers in check only in proportion to the personal prestige of the respective commanders in chief. Moreover, there is no unity between the north and south China armies, or between those units and the crack Kwangtung army in Manchukuo.

Nomonhan Mess

This situation is exemplified by a multitude of examples, including of course the Manchurian incident. More recently was the mess precipitated by the Kwangtung army when it led itself into a disastrous defeat at Nomonhan in 1939, against Tokyo orders. The "peaceful" entry in Indo-China last year cost hundreds of lives because field officers refused at first to obey the orders of General Nishihara, Tokyo's negotiator at Hanoi.

This "dual government" has been a major impediment to improvement of American-Japanese relations. Army units or individual officers act independently in China, and Tokyo must back them up or "lose face."

The laughably impotent foreign office and even the Tokyo war ministry are powerless to assure Washington that there will be any improvement in the China situation. The United States must, of course, deal with Tokyo. But, while platitudes are mouthed during diplomatic negotiations, irresponsible officers contravene them by their actions in the field.

The most flagrant example of this occurred early in 1940 when America and Japan had made the greatest strides toward improved relations since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war precipitated in hundreds of "cases" upon which Washington demanded settlement. Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, now ambassador to Washington, was foreign minister. He represented the pro-American faction which still believes that friendship with the United States is essential for Japan's continued international life.

Nomura Mission

As first proof of his good intention, Admiral Nomura promised reopening of the Yangtze river, as far as Hankow. To Americans it was only a minor concession, but to the Japanese it was a great retrogressive step to demonstrate the islands' sincere desire for friendship.

Although there was considerable optimism in Tokyo after this promise, relations were not improved and the cabinet fell on its inability to solve American issues. Diplomats and Admiral Nomura knew the river would never be reopened, even as a gesture. The reason: Army officers were making too much money by running their transports as monopolistic cargo boats.

Army extremists are not only greedy and ambitious but they are notoriously bigoted. Throughout Japan's modern history they have consistently underrated their enemies—the record shows that the Russo-Japanese war might have been lost if President Roosevelt had not intervened. The army underestimated China and completely misjudged the Soviet at Nomonhan. Incidentally, in that highly important battle German mechanised units were tried out for the first time on the Russians' side.

Now the army has underestimated the United States; both her power and, until lately, her willingness to fight. Egged on by their Nazi friends, the extremists are willing to risk war in furtherance of their own schemes and to protect their own position. Backing them are likeminded businessmen; the carpetbaggers who have made money in Manchukuo through monopolistic enterprises and who are trying to do the same in north China. From the people they draw the easily swayed superpatriots.

Swept On Tide

In opposition is the present government, an admitted minority which is held in power by the influence of Prince Konoye's position as a member of one of Japan's great families. An influential industrial group supports the government while fighting the army's schemes for planned economy as a major step toward totalitarian control. These are the pro-American businessmen who realise that profits would be most stable through friendship with China and who also realise Japan's economic ties with the United States.

The government itself is being swept along by the constant encroachments of the Nazi-minded military men.

He has opposed the creation of a single party based on the Nazi system, but the drive lately has been renewed. His ministers met defeat in an attempt to absolutely control industry, but now a campaign is under way which will accomplish virtually the same purpose.

Foreign Minister Matsuoka himself termed this domestic fight as a conflict between imperialists and the elements which do not want "conquest, exploitation and oppression." He added, "upon its outcome depends the fate of the Japanese empire."

Conservatives see only one solution to this situation — an outright army dictatorship. This alone, they say, would enable Tokyo to control its men in the field, because then an acknowledged army government would be forced to assume responsibility for mistakes abroad. These mistakes now are attributed not to the army, but to the helpless civilians behind it.

The army, however, has refused until now to be drawn into such a position. Obviously, the domestic battle will include in the future an intensified attempt to force them into the forefront. Shrewd politics may accomplish the trick, but even the conservatives are not optimistic.

EVEN IN JAPAN, THE PEOPLE HOLD THE FINAL KEY TO THE SITUATION. THEY ARE STIRRING NOW.

BISHOP IS DARTS "CHAMP"

The Bishop of Woolwich (Dr. Lang), who had not thrown a dart for ten years, recently visited a public shelter and defeated the shelter's champion.

The Bishop told civil defence workers of his success at a special service.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

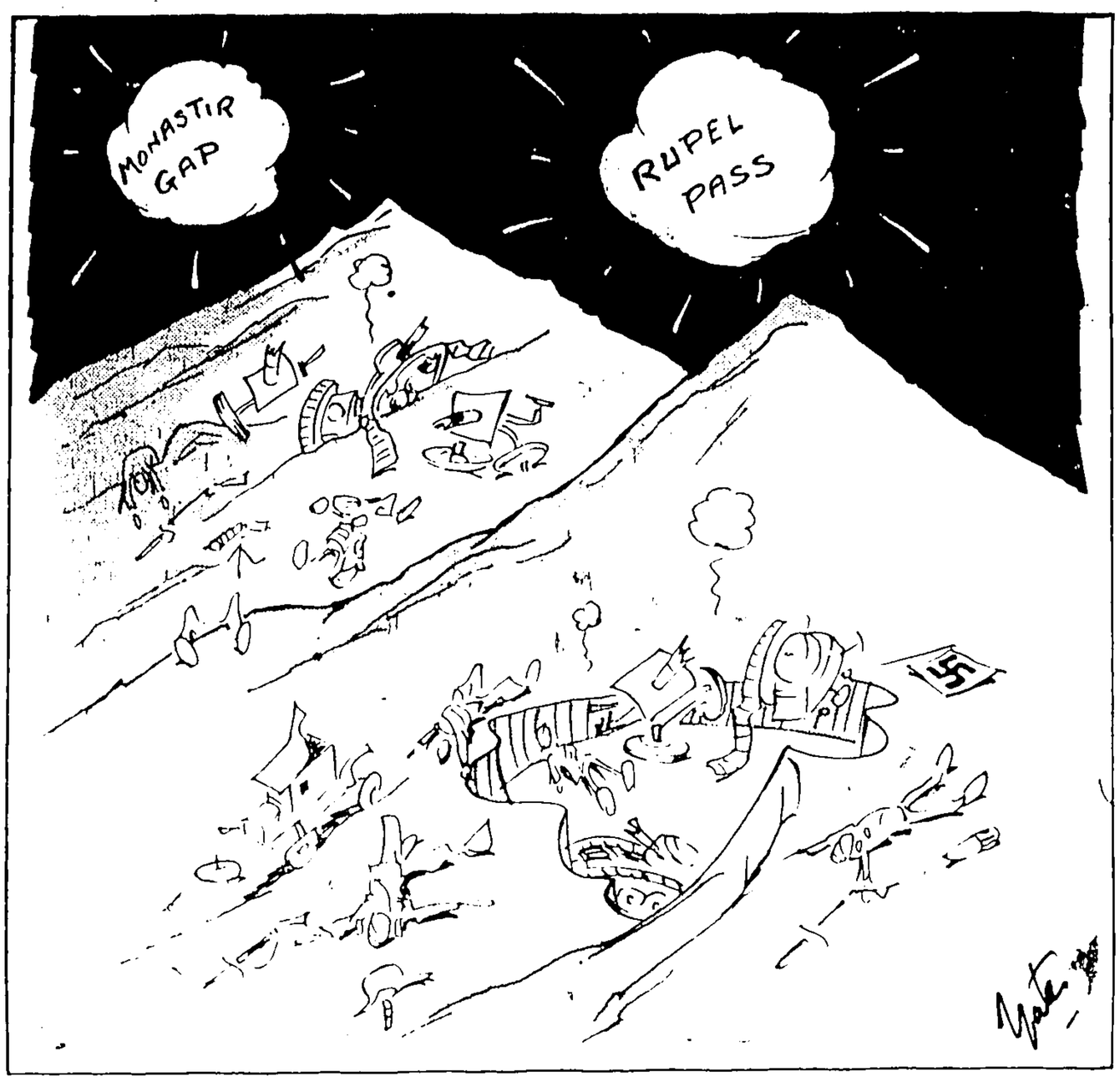
THE LIBYAN CAMPAIGN

Reports from Libya are somewhat confused, largely because of German propaganda put out and twisted in order to obscure the actual facts and to create uncertainty in people's minds. The Germans claim to have cut off the British in Tobruk, while some agencies have gone so far as to circulate a stupid report that Tobruk was encircled. From a prestige point of view, the German neck-or nothing dash is exceedingly annoying, but there is no reason to doubt the ability of the British and Imperial Forces to cope with the situation. The latest Cairo reports show that the position now is stabilised and that an attempt by the Germans to tackle the British forces on their chosen ground would be welcomed.

From a military point of view, Germany's dash across Libya is more spectacular than valuable. The German forces have been unopposed and the desert, "being", as one writer expresses it, "like the ocean," it makes little or no difference where battles take place. Hitler undertook this forceful diversion because he cannot afford a further setback in any form - whether diplomatic or military. He must at all costs continue to inject the doctrine of invincibility into the minds of his subjects, and he was wily enough to realise that the comparatively weak position of the British forces in Libya due to the withdrawal of large forces for Greece, gave him an opportunity to stage a "show."

The Germans at home need something of a reassuring nature. They are reported to be seriously disquieted by the outbreak of war in the Balkans, the heavy bombing of Berlin, and Russia's disapproval of Hitler's diplomacy, and were undoubtedly in urgent need of some stimulation by successful enterprise. Obviously, too, the revival of the war in Libya obliges General Wavell to maintain forces strong enough to defend the Egyptian frontier, thus hindering the dispatch of reinforcements to Greece.

The most deadly weapon that Hitler has exploited hitherto, however, is the spreading rumours, to create doubt and uncertainty. In this instance unless checked, the mendacious reports on the acknowledged advance made by the Germans might easily be construed as a heavy defeat for the British. This is far from the case. The utmost confidence is placed in General Wavell's management of affairs. The fall of Massawa has turned the Red Sea into a supply channel, sufficiently secure for President Roosevelt to announce that American vessels can carry war materials as far as Ismailia. The convoy position in that important area has, in consequence, been relieved, all of which not only shows that the Italian position in East Africa is irretrievably lost, but that, in spite of anything Hitler can now do, supplies can pass up the Red Sea to reinforce the British position in Greece and elsewhere.



"ACCORDING TO PLAN"

Trail Of The Raiders

By Hanson W. Baldwin

German surface and U-boat raiders are blazing a trail of battered hulls and floating wreckage across the troubled waste of the western ocean.

It was recently confirmed by arrival in Brest of the "Scharnhorst" and "Gneisenau," that German battleships had been operating far out in the Atlantic and that mine-layer raiders are added to her grave menace to the security of the submarine.

The "Spring "Blitz" at sea has started, and at sea as in the air the Germans are beginning to throw their full strength into the attempt a desperate and bitter and definitive attempt to crush Britain this year.

The sea war is no longer merely a question of U-boats and scattered surface raiders; Adolf Hitler is beginning to use the bulk of his navy as he did in Norway to achieve his objective, and if he achieves it at the cost Britain's shipping artery across the Atlantic, he will not be slow to pay the price even if total price would be virtual destruction of his navy.

Warships Are Added

To about 150 U-boat operating mainly from French port (about one third of them at sea at any one time), to perhaps three to a dozen armed merchant raiders operating in widely separated parts of the world; to a menace of mines and the threat of long-range bombers Germany has now added surface men-of-war. These ships, like the submarine, are believed to be based mainly on French ports, but can find refuge and fuel and supplies in any one of more than fifty ports scattered along the coast of Western Europe.

Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, sister ships, are modern 26,000-ton vessels with 11-inch main batteries, and although they have high speed, perhaps 29 knots, they cannot properly be called battle cruisers, since they are very heavily protected by armour. They are more than a match for any ship in the British Navy except a capital ship and they have higher speed than any British battleship, excepting the new ships of the King George V class. Only the three British battle cruisers, Hood, Repulse and Renown, have a clear "edge" on the Scharnhorst class in both speed and gun power.

Protection Is Complicated

With such ships operating against supply routes the British problem of protecting convoys has been enormously complicated. The British have been forced in recent weeks to utilise battleships to escort their principal convoys.

In addition to the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau the Germans are using cruisers and probably some destroyers against British trans-Atlantic routes and the raiders have probably cruised to within a few hundred miles of Newfoundland.

Despite losses in the Norwegian campaign the German Navy has at least seven cruisers—and probably several more—available for service, and it is likely that three or four of these and twenty or more of Germany's estimated forty-seven destroyers are operating in the Atlantic.

New Ships Reported

In addition to these ships Germany probably has two to six gunned battleships of the Bismarck class and two powerful aircraft carriers almost ready to set in service. These new ships will certainly be heard from later in the war, and though the two Bismarcks may be kept in the North Sea area to "contain" certain units of the British Fleet, one or both of the carriers might be unleashed on the routes of trade.

This kind of assault, dangerous enough even to the date of its present progress, has implications of peril for Britain if it is developed to the fullest possible extent. It is an assault that cannot be parried except by ships and more ships for convoy protection duty. It is an assault that cannot be prevented, common assumption to the contrary, by the British blockade.

Blockade Job Is Difficult

For no navy, no matter how powerful, can maintain an air-tight blockade. The British Navy's job to-day is incomparably greater and more difficult than in the World War; never before, at least in the days of steam and the 'plane, has it had to blockade a continent.

The German surface men-of-war possess the same advantage as the German air force—numerous and widely scattered bases. From Narvik to Bordeaux German ships can pop in and out of ports like a fox from a hollow log. The British Navy even aided by aerial reconnaissance, simply cannot cover all these ports effectively, and periodic bombing of those in range are at best a detriment, not a cure.

The sea must be combed for the raiders, but more important, all convoys, not only a special few, must be heavily protected by battleships, by cruisers, by destroyers, escort vessels and 'planes to guard against the triple threat of assault from beneath, from above and from on the surface.

This is the crux of the British supply problem.

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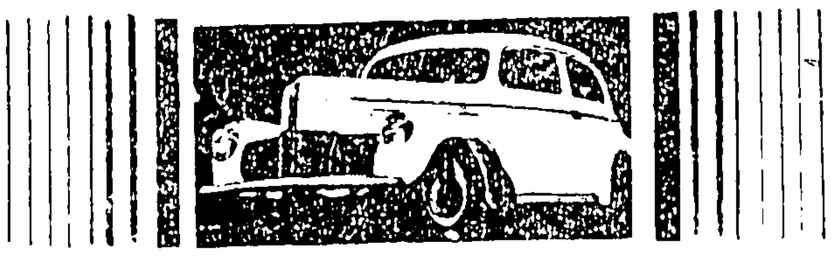

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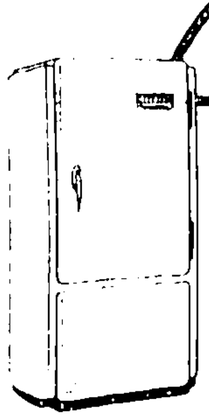
AS BRITISH AS THE FLAG



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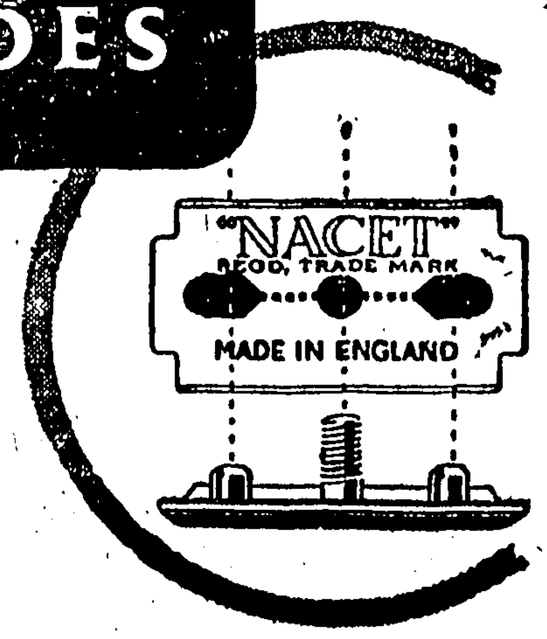

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R.A.F. BOMBERS DISORGANISE GERMANY

(By Wing Commander L. V. Fraser)

THE DISLOCATION OF ENEMY COMMUNICATIONS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES OF BRITAIN'S AIR OFFENSIVE ON GERMANY AND GERMAN OCCUPIED TERRITORY; MODERN ARMIES CANNOT LIVE OFF THE COUNTRY; AND MECHANISED FORCES MUST DRAW STEADILY AND REGULARLY ON SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS.

The immediate results of these attacks are not always obvious, and it may seem more spectacular when great war factories are gutted or stocks of raw materials blown up, but although these are important targets, communications are vital to Germany's war effort.

In order of importance German communications are as follows: coals railways roads, sea and air. Unlike Britain, Germany has an [illegible] and extensive canal system which handle the bulk of the heavy and non-perishable goods traffic. The canals and waterways are linked with the great rivers, and converge on the large inland port

Duisburg-ruhrort is the largest river port in the world serving the junction of the river Rhine Ruhr, Ems and Weser by way of the Dortmund-Ems and Mittel-land Canals. More than 40,000 barges are accommodated in the port in an average year. The R.A.F. has bombed the place 39 times, so far.

Where the canals cross valleys they are often carried on aqueducts, rather than by a series of locks. This method is cheaper and makes for less delay. The Dortmund-Ems canal has three aqueducts, which carry it across the rivers Lippe, Stever and Ems. The largest of the three is a double aqueduct across the Ems. These canal systems are naturally of great strategic importance and have been heavily attacked by British bombers.

Vital Link

Dortmund-Ems canal is a vital link for the west. Should Germany seek to transfer its heavy industries from the Ruhr to thought areas safer, the canal would become still more important, since in proportion, greater quantities of material would be water-borne.

The attack by the R.A.F. on this nerve centre was carefully considered and as carefully carried out. It was made on a bright moonlight night, and bombs were dropped both on the aqueduct near the stopgate and in the centre of the embankment. Subsequent reconnaissance showed that barges were lying high and dry in the mud the aqueduct being empty. Barges were being unloaded in fields alongside the canal.

Canals and railways are interdependent. When either system is damaged additional strain is thrown on the other. Damage to the canals slows down railways, while damage to railways congests the canals.

Natural conditions have imposed certain wartime disadvantages on the German railway transport system. This is partly due to geographical considerations and partly due to the imposed system of decreased co-ordination, which has brought increased vulnerability. A number of bottle-necks in distribution have thereby been created.

Hamm Railway Yard

The marshalling yard at Hamm is an eastern link as important for rail traffic as the Dortmund-Ems canal for waterborne traffic. The function of the marshalling yards is to sort out incoming trucks; no loading or unloading takes place. Speed in handling is essential, and at Hamm the Germans devised elaborate mechanical methods which worked so well in normal times that marshalling working done elsewhere was transferred there. Money and time were saved, but with "so many eggs in one basket" vulnerability in wartime was increased. Even slight damage may involve long delays in clearing traffic. Rolling stock is likely to be destroyed and the tracks themselves cut. No opportunity has been lost by the R.A.F. Hamm has been attacked more frequently than any other place in Germany.

Berlin is the hub of the railway system of central Europe. Cologne is the natural crossing of the Rhine, and the link with the invaded countries has been continually and successfully bombed.

PRINCESS GIVES BLOOD

The Princess Royal whose recent broadcast appeal for volunteer blood donors marked the beginning of a campaign in East and West Yorkshire, gave a pint of blood at Leeds.

It will remain "anonymous" and may be sent to Libya where some soldier, without knowing it will get royal blood in his veins.

7,000 Volunteers

Dr. W. S. Stanbury, Regional Blood Transfusion Officer, told a reporter: "The Princess (Royal)'s blood was of Group A or No. 2 Moss Group, next to the commonest Group O.

"Forty per cent. of the population have this blood grouping."

The Princess Royal attended the regional transfusion headquarters in Leeds just as other donors do.

Although she showed no sign of fatigue afterwards, she was asked to rest in the same way as other volunteers and given a drink to compensate her for the loss of blood.

So far about 7,000 volunteers have come forward in response to the Leeds appeal for 15,000 donors in the city. In the whole north-eastern administrative area 100,000 volunteers are required.

BRITISH 'PLANES COLLIDE

Two British 'planes collided head-on over Vodena, near the Yugo-Lav frontier, says a Greek report.

All the members of both crews were killed.

TITLED BEAUTY IS HELD

Police searched the London flat of the beautiful young wife of the heir to the Earl of Effingham, Lady Howard of Effingham, who has been detained by order of the Home Secretary under Defence Regulation 18B.

At the time inquiries were being made by the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, Lady Howard was at her country house at Byfleet, Surrey.

Her London home is in Park West, a block of modern flats near Marble Arch, W. Police were there until a late hour at night, and refused to admit callers.

When a reporter spoke to the Earl of Effingham about his daughter-in-laws' detention the Earl said "It is news to me." Asked if he would be getting into touch with his son, he said "I shall do nothing about the matter.

"Whether she has any political interests or not I do not know. I know little about her. It is really no affair of mine."

As Miss Maria Malvin Gertler, Hungarian-born daughter of a Budapest business man, Lady Howard met her husband, Lord Howard of Effingham, at a party in 1938.

A few months later — in October, 1938 — they were married at Marylebone Register Office. The bride was then twenty-six and the groom thirty-two.

Husband In R.A.F.

Lady Howard acquired British nationality by her marriage to one of England's most famous families.

It was the second holder of the Barony of Effingham, Charles, who was Commander-in-Chief of the English Fleet which destroyed the Spanish Armada in 1588.

Lady Howard of Effingham has taken an active part in making clothing for evacuated British and French children.

Her husband, at the outbreak of war, joined the R.A.F.

He had already tried his hand at many unusual jobs.

He worked in a cash office, as a mechanic in a garage, as in hotel [illegible] etc.

He served in a haberdashery department, and, as a contrast, went to be a ranch hand on Lord Rodney's Canadian ranch.

In 1935 Lord Howard became engaged to Miss Kathleen Meyrick, daughter of the late Mrs. Meyrick. The engagement was subsequently broken off.

MAN SHOT IN WHITEHALL AS CROWDS WATCH CHASE

REVOLVER IN HAND, a military policeman shouted, "Stop that man!" as he ran among startled Londoners in Whitehall in pursuit of a young man dressed in civilian clothes.

Then a shot rang out, and the civilian fell to the pavement, blood pouring from a wound in his thigh. Crowds waiting in bus queues saw the incident.

A witness told a reporter, "The civilian and the 'redcap' went together a few minutes before, walking from a side turning into Whitehall.

"The man broke away from the soldier and started to run among pedestrians on the pavement. Before he got far he collided with some people and I just missed being knocked down.

"The 'redcap' passed me shouting and I heard a shot fired. When I turned round the young man was lying on his face."

An ambulance took the injured man and the military policeman to hospital.

5 BRITISH BLITZED CITIES ARE RISING AGAIN

(By A Special Correspondent)

WHILE THE SMOKE was still rising from the bomb-blasted wreckage of Coventry, the Germans proudly introduced a new word into the English language.

Their new word was "Coventrated" — to bomb out of existence. Very pleased with it, they proceeded to apply the word to other places — to Southampton and Birmingham, Sheffield and Bristol.

The Germans would be less pleased to-day if they could see these cities which they sought to put out of the war. The mark of the beast is still stamped heavily upon them, but the wheels are turning again, the smoke to-day is coming from factory chimneys.

And their citizens, working with might and main, are doing more than patch and repair. They are planning to build afresh new and finer buildings to rise on the sites which the Luftwaffe cleared.

Here is their story, one of the most inspiring of the war:

Southampton

When the City Fathers surveyed the cruel damage they saw more than wreckage. They saw a still more gracious Southampton which could rise from the ruins.

Already new building lines for the town's main thoroughfares have been fixed. When the new Southampton is born, those streets will have roadways 80ft. wide.

Large numbers of properties were damaged or destroyed creating immediate, pressing needs among those who suffered in the raids. The Council have approved the principle of building inexpensive temporary premises on central sites, even if necessary in the famous parks, for letting to bombed-out traders and business men.

Sheffield

When the Nazis struck at Sheffield, they damaged a great many houses.

But the city buckled down to the big job and contractors from Doncaster, Rotherham, Chesterfield and Barnsley have been repairing the remainder at high speed.

And far-reaching plans for rebuilding the city are being prepared.

Birmingham

Most of the homeless have found accommodation with friends, or have been evacuated

A hundred hostels are being opened to house others till new homes are found for them.

Bristol

A complete survey of the city is being made. From it will be prepared a "rough and imaginative" plan of the central area, showing possibilities for post-war replanning.

But individuals and firms are busy on their own account. Shopkeepers have complete plans for rebuilding on bombed sites. Some hope soon to reopen in temporary huts.

Coventry

Coventry, veteran of blitzed provincial cities, is living a new existence, instead of being blotted out of existence, as the Nazis thought.

Many people have moved elsewhere since that devastating night, but those that remain find their city daily nearer to normal.

And while the wheels of industry spin faster, local officials are busy on a redevelopment scheme. Soon their preliminary report will be ready, the first brick in the Coventry of to-morrow will have been laid.

MR. HEINZ IS DEAD

Mr. Howard Heinz, the canned food "king" has died at Pittsburg, U.S., aged sixty-three. In 1900 he entered the food manufacturing business established by his father. Appointed sales manager in 1905, he became president of the H. J. Heinz Company in 1919.—Reuter.

BATTLED AS HUNS BOMBED

Many people have left Portsmouth to find new homes elsewhere.

They have lived through previous raids, and it has taken the full concentration of Nazi hate to force them away. Many lost their homes in the night raid and others have been evacuated from areas which bombs have made dangerous.

Once again the German technique was the same — flares and showers of incendiaries followed by tons of high explosive bombs.

This time, though, our night patrols went up to meet the raiders. Grim battles were fought in the light of the moon.

Some raiders were driven away. At least one bomber was brought down by our fighters and another by A.A. fire. But the Huns returned again and again. With a short lull, the bombing lasted for several hours.

Four cinemas and theatres were hit, but the casualties were miraculously small, most of the audience having taken shelter.

Stores In Ruins

Shops and stores known to thousands of visitors and holiday-makers are in ruins.

One high explosive bomb damaged a hospital receiving casualties and incendiaries fell on the roof. They were tackled by the staff and others, and in the midst of the blitz the patients were safely evacuated outside the city.

The next day many people were still being rescued from the ruins.

An A.F.S. section was wiped out. A Scout troop meeting ended in death for most of these boys.

The Lord Mayor Mr. D. L. Daley, said: "Our proud city has been hit and hit hard by the enemy.

"But we are as determined as ever, to stand side by side with other cities which have felt the blast."

LAUGHTER AT HIS FUNERAL

"No crying or whispering. Laugh, talk, walk around, have a good time."

By order of the dead man a sign bearing those words hung over the coffin of Dode Fisk, former circus star, when his funeral took place at Columbus, Ohio.

He ordered his executors to "start at 2.15 p.m., the time I started my circus. Want it snappy, the way I ran my circus."

WAR BRINGS MORE BOYS

War-time is again proving a peak time for boy babies.

Since the outbreak of war, the birth rate in Great Britain has increased remarkably, but more remarkable still is the increase in the proportion of boy babies to girl babies.

For every 1,000 girl babies born there have been 1,057 boys — seventeen more boys per thousand births than the average figure over a long period of years.

Postponed Marriages

Despite the efforts of scientists since the seventeenth century, nobody can satisfactorily explain why more boys should be born in wartime.

During 1914-1918 the proportion of boys born in this country was ten per thousand more than normal.

Similar substantial increases were noted in all belligerent countries.

Dr. R. A. Fisher, Galton Professor of Eugenics at University College, London, told a reporter:— "In wartime marriages are often postponed, so that towards the end of the war there is a greater proportion of first births, and it is an established fact that there is a slight tendency for the first-born to be boys."

ARMY OF PILOTS LAND IN BRITAIN

A VAST CONTINGENT of trained airmen have landed at a Scottish port — men who left Britain for Canada under the Empire air training scheme and now home again, having gained their wings.

After a brief "polishing up" in Britain they will be posted to R.A.F. service stations to take their part in the air war against the Huns.

They are forerunners of thousands of pilots who will join the R.A.F. at regular intervals from the Canadian training schools.

The scheme, in full blast now, is training men from every corner of the Empire.

In addition to the British pilots, the contingent included Canadian and Australian Forces.

Most of their instruction was given by Canadian bush pilots who, before the war, were employed flying machinery and supplies to remote parts of north-west Canada and Alaska.

The British, mainly sergeant pilots, said that although they had "a royal time" in Canada they were glad to be home.

The party included at least five veterans of the last war. One of the most interesting among them is a Londoner who has spent twenty years in Ottawa. He served during the last war in the Marines, the Navy and the French Army, seeing service in France and Belgium.

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1 Case Celluloid Tooth Brush Cases

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BRIDGE NOTES

A FINE POINT
By The Four Aces

North had to make a very close choice in the bidding of to-day's hand:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable

	♠ K Q J 6 ♡ 7 6 3 2 ◇ 10 8 5 ♣ 10 8	
♠ 9 7 4 2 ♡ A K Q 8 ◇ 4 ♣ 6 2 ♣ 7 6	N W E S	♠ A 8 5 ♡ J 10 9 5 ◇ A 7 3 ♣ 5 4 2
	♠ 10 3 ♡ — ◇ K Q J 9 4 ♣ A K Q J 9 3	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♡	Pass	Pass
3◇	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

North knew that South's bid of three diamonds indicated a five-card suit. And South had to hold six clubs, since he had bid clubs before showing the diamonds. So North could show a preference for either suit and still be sure of having eight trumps in the combined hands. But North chose clubs because he knew that South would be forced to ruff hearts as often as he gave the opponents the lead; and a six-card trump suit would survive the "punches" better than a five-card trump suit.

HIGH CARD VALUES OF THE FOUR-ACES SYSTEM
ACE... 3
KING.. 2
QUEEN.1
JACK... ½
TOTAL VALUE OF PACK 20
AVERAGE HAND 5%

North was quite right, of course, for South made his contract of five clubs but could not have made five diamonds! West led a heart, and South ruffed and drew three rounds of trumps. He then led the diamonds, knocking out East's Ace. A heart return brought South down to one trump, but that was enough to allow the setting up of a spade trick.

Now examine the play at five diamonds. The opening lead reduces South to four trumps. South must knock out the diamond Ace, and then another heart lead reduces his trumps to the same number as East's. It takes all of South's trumps, therefore, to clear the suit so that he can cash the clubs. And then South never succeeds in setting up a spade, since East's last two cards are the spade Ace and a good heart.

* * *

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents, you held:

♠ 6
♡ A J 9 4
◇ K Q 8 3
♣ Q 10 7 5

The bidding:

Jacoby	Maier	You	Schenken
1♠	2♣	(?)	

ANSWER: Double. Your hand should take about two club tricks, and about two or three tricks in hearts and diamonds. If your partner has fair defensive strength, you should do well against two clubs, even without being able to make a game of your own.

Score 100% for double, 30% for two diamonds or two hearts, 20% for two no-trump.

Question No. 692

To-day you hold the same hand, but the bidding is:

Jacoby	Maier	You	Schenken
1♡	2♣	(?)	

What do you bid? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

JAPANESE DROP BOMB — ON OWN FIELD

FIVE JAPANESE MILITARY AIRMEN WERE BLOWN TO BITS AND TWO BOMBERS WERE DESTROYED IN AN ACCIDENT AT THE JAPANESE-OCCUPIED HANOI AIR FIELD, AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN REPORTED IN SAIGON.

The accident occurred when a third Japanese bomber, departing for a bombing expedition to southwest China, flew over the Hanoi field and unintentionally dropped a demolition bomb in the middle of the sleeping camp.

LOOT GANGS RAID BLITZ TOWNS

ORGANISED LOOTING GANGS have appeared in heavily bombed towns, and provincial police forces have been warned to be on their guard against them.

The looters' method is to pose as rescue workers and to load furniture and other goods into the lorries and pantechnicons with which they are equipped.

Most of the gangs are believed to have their headquarters in London, but the problem is made more difficult for local forces because large numbers of gangsters have "evacuated" themselves from the London underworld and have re-formed in the larger provincial centres.

Some have passed themselves off as demolition or repair workers, and others have used women and child accomplices.

In Coventry a gang who came by road from London were loading furniture on to a lorry from a warehouse when they were disturbed. It was after experiences in this city that other towns were warned.

Child Looters

A 16-years-old London boy who was sent to an approved school for looting in Coventry told a detective that he came to the city in a stolen car with a man whom he met in an air-raid shelter.

They took £64 worth of property from a shop and disposed of it in London.

A gang of six boys, three other boys, and a girl were dealt with by the same court for looting.

Sheffield escaped the gangs because it was ready for them.

"We were forewarned," the chief constable, Major F. S. James, said, "and as a result we kept clear of any organised looting. We made it almost impossible for any unauthorised person to get into the wrecked areas."

The C.I.D. chief of a northern police force said: "We have been warned that these gangs do it on a big scale.

In Daylight

"They come along with a pantechnicon and load up in daylight. They have accomplices with local knowledge.

"The public can help, but that is a delicate question. A police officer can detain anyone who is acting suspiciously, but a member of the public must catch people in the act of committing a felony before he tries to detain them.

"If he makes a mistake he may find himself being sued for damages."

CARROTS ARE FILLING

For thousands of Belgian children the first morning exercise at school these days is to eat a raw carrot.

To children old enough to understand, the teacher explains that carrots contain essential vitamins. Younger children merely know that here is a little extra food, welcome after a skimpy breakfast. Carrot distribution was begun with the cooperation of German authorities.

TRAIL WOMAN'S LIFE IN POISON MYSTERY

By A Special Correspondent

Detectives investigating the mysterious death of forty-seven-year-old Miss Elizabeth Byford, whose body was exhumed at Plymouth, are trailing her movements right back to the village in which she was born.

Bit by bit they are putting together the jig-saw of her life and associations before she was rushed from her home at the Cornish village of St. Ann's Chapel to a Plymouth hospital where she died a few days later. When her body was exhumed, it was stated that traces of arsenic had been found.

When the detectives began their inquiries at St. Ann's Chapel, they found that Miss Byford had been known there as Mrs. Fiske, a woman of independent means. They also discovered that she and a man known to the villagers as Mr. Fiske had rented for a few weeks The Cafe, a seven-roomed house with a small shop attached. The shop had been stocked, but never opened.

Her Native Village

Soon the investigations were taking the police to hotels and cottages in villages and towns in East Devon and Cornwall—among them Newton Poppleford, Sidmouth and Callington—where Miss Byford had stayed since 1938.

Eventually the trail led back to the Hertfordshire village of Newgate Street, where Miss Byford was born, and where her mother died a few years ago.

At Callington, which is near St. Ann's Chapel, are some disused arsenic mines. Samples of arsenic have been taken from the flue at the end of a refining chamber, and from other parts of the mine.

This type of arsenic, the coroner was told at the inquest, could have been responsible for Miss Byford's death.

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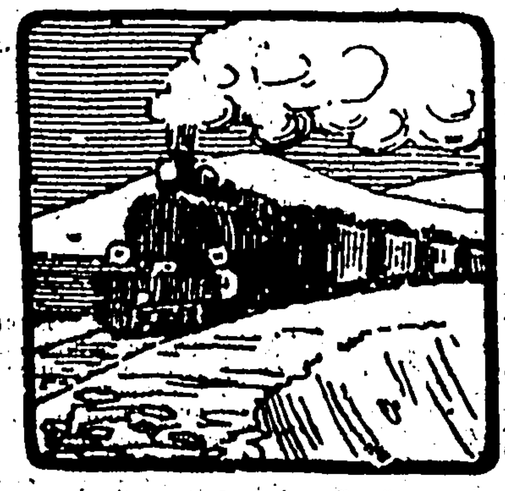

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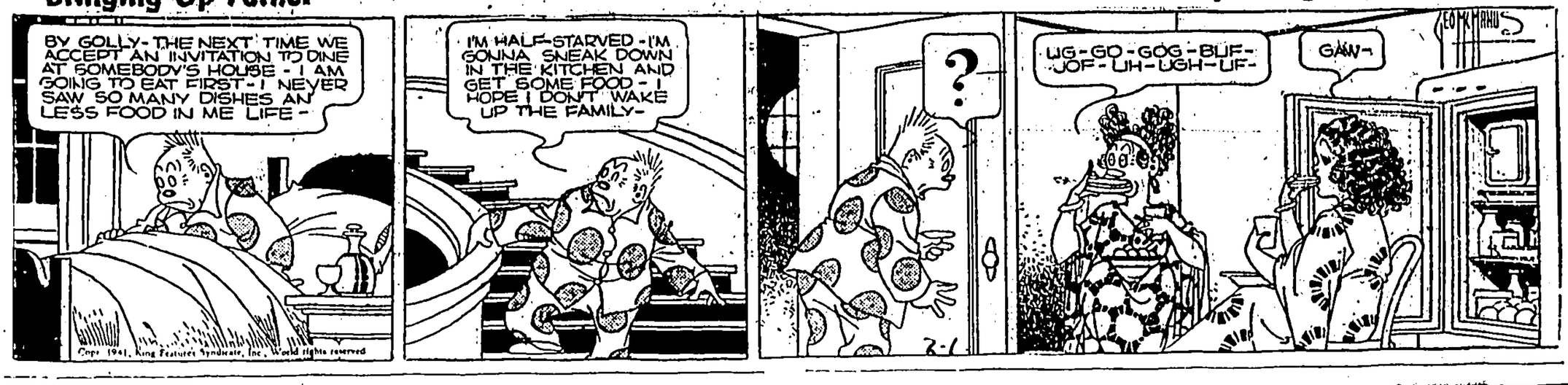


A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Want to Shake the Blues?

We all experience an occasional mood when life seems pretty uninteresting. We get the blues. We yearn for a change—or something to give your spirits fillip. And unfortunately, we find a change isn't possible at that time and there is nothing to do but go on living—but we can go on living with more beauty!

There is no better tonic for a woman's dejected spirits than a thorough grooming—an enhancing of her beauty.

A MASQUE FOR YOU: After a perfumed tubbing and a good skin scrubbing with a brush and soap, wrap yourself in a warm robe (so as not to catch cold), tie up your hair, and apply a velvety, peach-coloured cream masque. The one I'm thinking of used to be kept in reserve for special salon facials but any woman can now buy it in a little jar. While this wonder cream is making your face skin more beautiful, tackle your nails.

A BRAND NEW NAIL KIT which boasts a patriotic middy collar as a cover, contains all you need for home nail grooming. And when you buy it remember you have a choice of any of the latest polish shades Select one which flatters your hands and then your fingers will feel capable and smart in their new dress. After the manicure it's time for you to remove the masque and freshen your face with splashes of clear, cold water, or chilled sl in tonic. Put on fresh undies (which I trust are scented with sachet), your favourite dress and slippers. Then sit yourself down before your mirror and get busy with your head! Tie a protecting cape around your shoulders and brush and comb your hair into as pretty a coiffure as your fingers can fashion. Then you are ready for the make-up session.

Regimental chic is the order of the day and young things are adoring this smart middy collar nail kit which offers choice of polish shades.

Speaking about make-up—it's time to buy new. I want to acquaint you with a jaunty little military cap of metallic blue which boasts four new make-up aids—a huge lipstick in a bright new shade, cream rouge, nail polish to harmonise, and an especially blended powder for pre-spring beauty. There they are—new, exciting, inspiring. After using them your face should look like spring feels — fresh, young, and romantic!

Now you are ready for a date. If you haven't one to look forward to, pick up the telephone, and in your sweetest, surest voice, get yourself one! Spring is only around the corner, and the men you know are getting an urge to snap out of their winter lethargies too.

"Unlovely Rubber Tire"

A so-called "rubber tire," my dears, indicates that you are lazy. You simply do not exercise enough, or the exercise you take is not the right sort to keep your midriff slim.

Diet helps some, in reducing this roll of excess flesh, but it truly does require specific exercise or professional massage taken regularly, to banish it effectively.

Now no woman likes that midriff bulge. A girdle or corset only makes it more pronounced for they push the flesh up as they flatten the hips and buttocks. No dress, or suit or bathing suit can be becoming or chic if you have a rubber tire. If you have, why not resolve right now to get rid of it?

What To Do

The primary step is to correct your posture. You simply must force yourself to stand up erectly with your abdomen pulled in, and your shoulders back but relaxed. Two things which will help you do this is to feel your shoulders broaden, as you push them back and down, and to feel yourself grow tall when you pull in your abdomen and tuck under your buttocks. Practice before a mirror until you get the right feel of correct, easy posture.

Perhaps too, you need a new supporting brassiere. Take time to be fitted well—there are so many good models now on the market that you are certain to find one that is comfortable, supporting and which makes your bustline more lovely.

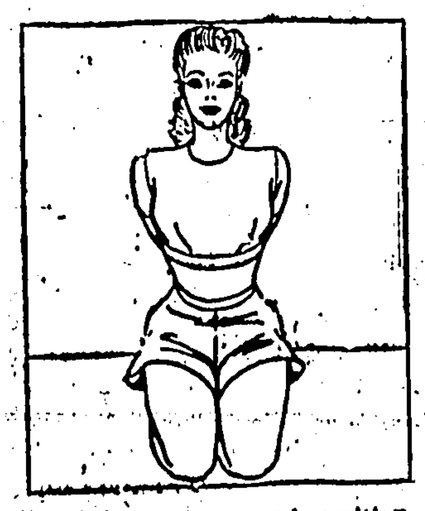
After you have mastered good posture and bought your undergarment, set aside at least twenty minutes each day to exercise. For five minutes practice this:

Lie flat on the floor, arms overhead in relaxed position. Forcefully pull your abdomen in and back toward your spine. Once you get those muscles to respond you will feel your abdomen move in and then slightly up. Relax. Pull in again. Relax. Then stand up in good posture and practice the same movement for five minutes more.

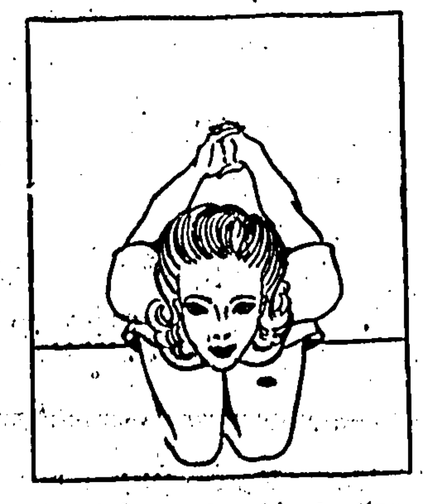
For the remaining ten minutes practice the exercise illustrated to-day. Kneel on floor, pull abdomen in and up, stretch arms out behind you and clasp hands.

Now keeping your head back where it belongs and leading with your chin, bend forward arching your back and letting your clasped hands move as high as possible. YOU MUST KEEP YOUR ABDOMEN IN! Return to original kneeling position and repeat.

This is splendid for firming the abdominal muscles, limbering the back and banishing that abhorred rubber tire!



Kneeling in good position, with abdomen in, arms behind.



Bend forward, chin leading, arms raised in back.

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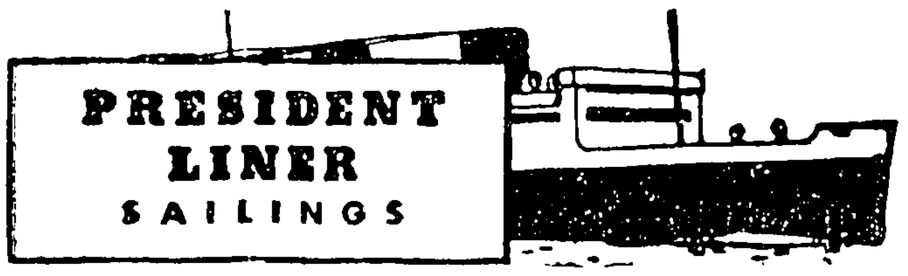

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RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 p.m.—Excerpts from Ivor Novello's Shows.
Careless Rapture—Selection. Geraldo & his Orchestra.
Glamorous Night—The Girl I Knew ... Elisabeth Welch with Orch.
The Dancing Years—I Can Give You the Starlight—Waltz. Waltz of My Heart—Waltz. New Mayfair Dance Orchestra. My Dearest Dear ... Mary Ellis & Ivor Novello. My Life Belongs to You ... Dunstan Hart & Mary Ellis with Ivor Novello at the piano.

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal.

1.01 p.m.—New Mayfair Dance Orchestra.
Fox-Trot. Music Hath Charms (from the film). Slow Fox-Trot. Honey Coloured Moon. Quick-Step. Nursie! Nursie! Fox-Trot. Somewhere at Sea. Tango Fox-Trot. Where the Cafe Lights are Gleaming. Fox-Trot. Angel of the Great White Way. Novelty Fox-Trot. Speedboat Bill. The Haunted House. Waltz. Lonely Sweetheart.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Compositions of Coleridge-Taylor.
"Otello"—Suite—Dance from Otello; Children's; Intermezzo; Funeral March; Willow Song; Military March. New Symphony Orch. Thou Hast Bewitched Me, Beloved. This is the Island of Gardens; Unmindful of the Roses. Arthur Reckless (Baritone) & Orch. Intermezzo. New Light Symphony Orchestra. Sons of the Sea. Peter Dawson (Bass-Baritone) with Orch.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 p.m.—Variety & Dance Music.
Fox-Trots. Ten Little Men from Town. Home at Sundown. The Organ, the Dance Band & Me. Vocal. Moon over Miami. Turner Layton with piano. Waltz. Love is All (from "It's a Date"). Fox-Trot. They Call me a Dreamer. Oscar Rabin & his Strict Tempo Dance Orchestra. Comedienne. 'Erbert 'Enery 'Epplewaite Gracie Fields. Fox-Trot—Shufflin' at the Hollywood. Lionel Hampton & Orchestra. Vocal & Piano. One Morning in May, You Oughta Be in Pictures. Derickson & Brown.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Meet Uncle Sam".

7.30 p.m.—"Fats" Waller (Organ) and His Rhythm.
Fox-Trots—Anita; I Used to Love You. Deep River. "Fats" Waller (Organ). Fox-Trots—Something Tells Me, Scrontch. Lonesome Road, Water Boy. "Fats" Waller (Organ solo). Fox-Trots. Patty Cake, Patty Cake, Good for Nothin' But Love.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Announcements.

8.02 p.m.—Violin Solos by Albert Sandler.
Pale Moon (Indian Love Song) (Logan), Allegro (Frocco). Jack Byfield at the Piano. Estudiantina—Waltz (Waldteufel); Dolores—Waltz (Waldteufel). ..Sydney Ffoulkes at the piano.

8.15 p.m.—Studio—Local Newsletter.

8.30 p.m.—Keith Falkner (Baritone) & New Mayfair Orchestra.
Jerome Kern Melodies—Intro. There is a Hill Beyond a Hill; Blue Eyes; Dancing Time; Look for the Silver Lining; She did not say Yes; Whose Baby Are You; Who; Moon Love; I've told ev'ry little Star; Wild Rose ....New Mayfair Orchestra. San Diego Betty (film "Mayfair Melody"); Without the Moon. ..Keith Falkner (Baritone). A Musical Comedy Switch .... New Mayfair Orchestra. A Song Doesn't Care (film "Mayfair Melody")....Keith Falkner (Baritone). Love Tales—Intro: Love, Here is my Heart; Speak to me of Love; A Bachelor Gay; I Love Thee; Frasquita Serenade; If Winter Comes.. New Mayfair Orchestra.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

9.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Questions of the Hour".

9.28 p.m.—Compositions of Beethoven.
Sonata in E Flat Major, Op. 81a (Les Adieux): Adagio—Allegro—Andante espressivo — Vivacissimamente.... Arthur Schnabel—Piano solo.
Adelaide, Op. 46. ..Jussi Bjorling (Tenor) with piano.
Romance in F Op. 50....Paul Kaul (violin solo with piano).

9.45 p.m.—News in French (on Short Wave only).

10.00 p.m.—London Relay—"To Talk of Many Things".

10.15 p.m.—Verdi's "Aida" Ballet Suite and Act III.
Ballet Suite....Boston Promenade Orchestra conducted by Arthur Fiedler.
Aida Act III—Characters and Soloists in order of appearance: Amneris, Pharoah's daughter....Maria Capuana (M-Soprano); Ramfis, High Priest....Trancredi Pasero (Bass); Aida....Arangi-Lombardi (Soprano); Amonasro, King of Ethiopa....Armando Borgioli (Baritone); Rhadames, a young warrior....Arnoldo Lindi (Tenor); with Orchestra.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.

PEER HITS AT CIVIL SERVICE

A FIERCE ATTACK on Civil Servants "ignorant of the swaying passions and interests which dominate ordinary humanity," was made in the House of Lords by Lord Perry, chairman of the Ford Company, who recently resigned the post of business adviser to the Ministry of Food.

"Are we compelled to muddle through to victory?" he asked.

"Ministers of the Crown," he added, "are served by a personnel which has been carefully selected for peacetime pursuits. It is only those having experience, as I have, of Government servants in other countries who can appreciate that the British permanent official is in a class by himself. He is never failing in courtesy and deportment.

"He believes that second thoughts are better than quick decision, and that to sleep on a matter is preferable to immediate action.

Lacks Thrill Of Hazard

"Given a young man on the threshold of life, whose ceiling of ambition is short hours, a little work, mediocre surroundings,

"Given a young man who is content to go through life waiting year by year for dead men's shoes to secure promotion, and whose goal is to reach sixty years when he can retire on half pay.

"That is the man who is attracted by the Civil Service.

"He buys nothing. He sells nothing. He pays for nothing.

"He never has anything at risk and therefore lacks that great champagne of life—the thrill of hazard.

"Peace-time methods of the Civil Service obviously cannot be expected to meet war-time conditions.

"Such a body must be at a serious disadvantage when it attempts to grapple with modern warfare.

"Low Pressure"

"He is not a mere cog in the machinery. He is the power. Without him nothing can move. He is the steam in the engine and the steam is of very low pressure and operates through many complications of valves, governors, gauges and other contraptions designed—deliberately designed—to afford the maximum of obstruction and delay."

Lord Perry referred to the "extraordinary rapidity with which Ministers have been changed since the outbreak of war," and added, "Why have the executive and administrative departments been immune? It is they who are charged with the duty of arming and equipping our fighting forces.

"When one finds a succession of ill-suited Ministers, it is permissible to ask whether it is the Minister who is to blame or the staff.

"I know of nothing worthwhile and worthy which they have done since the war began."

The Lord Chancellor, in reply, said they should study the position, but he was giving no Governmental assurance.

Lord Perry withdrew his motion for papers.

LEARNED TO LEAD BAND BY DIAGRAMS

TEDDY JOYCE, THE DANCE BAND LEADER, WHO COLLAPSED IN A GLASGOW HOTEL AFTER PERFORMING WITH HIS BAND, DIED IN A GLASGOW HOSPITAL LATER. IT IS STATED THAT HE WAS SUFFERING FROM SPINAL FEVER.

Joyce's real name was Edmund John Cuthbertson. He was a Canadian.

Describing how he became a dance band conductor, he once wrote: "When I was a kid I learned the fiddle seriously. Then I stiffened two fingers in a car crash and put an end to ideas of a concert career."

Eventually Joyce went to New York and developed eccentric dancing. He went to St. Louis at the age of twenty-two and was told he would have to conduct the band as well. He had no idea how to do it, but he managed it by drawing diagrams on the music.

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PLANS UNDER-16 CURFEW

A curfew coinciding with black-out for all people under sixteen not attending night school or assisting civil defence units is urged by Captain A. J. P. Thornton, a London County Council probation officer investigating juvenile crime in West Country reception areas.

He told a reporter at Weston-super-Mare that boys are well as girls were exposing themselves to grave moral danger in the black-out streets and unlighted air raid shelters.

The local courts are sitting daily to deal with young people who steal from shops, raid poultry farms for eggs, and molest people in the streets.

The stealing of bicycles, on which boys set out to ride 130 miles to their homes in London.

"This type of offence is difficult to deal with, because the boys are often encouraged by their parents," said Captain Thornton

A Sore Point

"The shelter problem is a sore point with parents," went on Captain Thornton

"Most reception areas are not so well equipped with shelters as cities in the danger zones and when there happens to be a raid in a reception area parents complain of the lack of protection

"If the Government wishes to maintain the success of its evacuation schemes, steps must be taken to see that the new indoor shelters are distributed to household where evacuees are billeted."

All the remand homes and approved schools in the area are full and on Captain Thornton's advice Weston-super-Mare magistrates have appealed to the Home Office to suggest an alternative to sending offenders to workhouse wards waiting for vacancies at approved schools

HUSTLE

The town of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, U.S. is convinced at last that the motor-car has come to stay The citizens are removing the old-fashioned hitching posts to which they tied their horses and giving them to the local council for use as boundary posts.

Gate-Crashed Queen's Rooms

(By A Special Correspondent)

MUCH STRICTER EXAMINATION of men and women employed casually in and about the homes of the King and Queen has been forced as a result of an amazing incident at one of the royal homes in the country.

A young soldier told me that he found his way to the Queen's apartments, entered after knocking on the door, and asked her to help him to join the A.F.S. The Queen was astounded at the ease with which the man was able to wander about the rooms.

immediately orders were given for a tightening of the regulations concerning the employment of servants in the royal homes.

Papers of all workers in the royal residences will be so carefully scrutinised that it will never again be possible for an intruder to get past the gatekeepers.

Here is the story as the soldier told it: "After deserting and starving for some weeks, I went to the Labour Exchange in a district where the King and Queen live. I got a job as a fitter's mate in the royal household.

"I found out where the Queen's rooms were and made up my mind to see her and ask for her help. I strolled boldly to her room and knocked at the door.

"A voice asked: 'Who's there?'

"I answered and walked a The Queen seemed surprised to see me, and asked why I had come.

"I said something, and she then asked me to tell her my story. She smiled and was nice to me.

"After I had told her why I had come to see her, she shook my hand and promised to help me. She took my address and said she would write soon

"The next day I gave up my job and returned to London.

"After three weeks I became disheartened and gave myself up to the police."

The man is now facing trial on a charge of desertion

He began his story by saying "I am twenty-one I joined the Army about five months ago, leaving behind me a family I thought the world of, the girl I want to marry and an ambition to join the A.F.S.

"When the air raids on London started I was stationed in Northern Ireland I heard of the raids on the East End and was worried

"When I arrived home I was shocked to see that the place had been wrecked and my family separated.

"I returned to my unit I was miserable because I wanted to be in London in the thick of it.

"Eventually we were posted on a draft to London and I realised that here was a chance to join the A.F.S.

"No sooner had I run away than I saw how foolish I was.

"For three weeks I tried every way I knew to get in the A.F.S., but they would not take me. They told me I was too young.

"Suddenly the thought struck me Why not see the Queen and ask her to help?"

RECALL TO JOB AT 91

Nearly all the old "stockingers" who worked the hand-looms are dead, but an Arnold, Nottingham, hosiery firm have been able to recall ninety-one-year-old Andrew Gosling to make a dozen pairs of socks for an American millionaire.

The order received Nottingham for a customer in America, who sent a design of socks of a most intricate pattern which cannot be made on the modern power looms.

The only machine able to produce such a complicated design is the hand frame, which went out of use more than half a century ago Now only a few are to be seen in museums.

Messrs. Allen Solly and Company, however, have a few left, which they regard as curiosities, and Gosling, an employee, who, in spite of his great age, is alert and has good eyesight, was asked to return to the factory.

He is also instructing a younger man so that if more orders come in the work will go on.

It is not economical to make such socks on the modern machines.

"I am delighted to be back at my old job," said Mr. Gosling.

"I have made footwear for many of the best-known crowned heads of Europe, for Indian rajahs and American millionaires

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2APB7

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Young love is just a rosy dream until old man finance sticks his nose in—then it begins to be one long nightmare.

"ONLY RED TAPE CAN BEAT US"

"Red tape" is the only thing that could ever make Britain wave the white flag, said Mr. Alfred Edwards, M. P. for East Middlesbrough, speaking at Billingham-on-Tees.

He urged that "red tape" should be cut out.

"This is our country's gravest hour," he said. "Don't let it be said we strangled ourselves with red tape

"We shall survive and the world will judge us not by our guns, but by our sacrifices."

BLAKE IS TO RISK BLITZ

Bridgwater city fathers have said "No" to a proposal to remove the statue commemorating the birthplace of Admiral Blake to a place of safety

"I cannot imagine that Blake, were he able to speak, would like his statue put in a place of security," said Alderman Deacon

G R

IMMIGRATION OFFICE NOTICE

Shippers are hereby notified that, on account of this evening's black-out, there will be no examination of ship's passengers by this Office after 6 p.m. Examinations will be held as usual to-morrow

R. A. D. FORREST
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RUMJAHN COUSINS CARRIED TO 4 SETS; FIRST SEMI-FINAL

K. H. Ip Outstanding Player On Stand Court

Matches Veterans In All Phases

By "Adrem"

CURRENT OPINION was upset rather at Hong Kong Cricket Club yesterday when S. A. and H. D. Rumjahn, who have generally been considered to be in better form this season than they were last season, only managed to beat Ho Ka-lau and K. H. Ip by 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, in the first semi-final match in the Colony Tennis Championships.

The fact that the match lasted so long can be attributed to the magnificent display of young Ip. In this, his first year of Colony tournament play, he stood head and shoulders above the three other players—whose total experience of tournament tennis is probably runs into something like 70 years.

This fact would not be so surprising in any place other than Hong Kong, but after watching these matches year after year with the same old players doing virtually as they liked to their youthful challengers, the advent this season of Ip and Choa does bring some hope for the future.

There is much in Ip's game that needs improving. He is very apt, through over-anxiety, to play shots that are obviously going out, and also to assume more of the play than he should, but time should eradicate these faults.

He played practically every shot in the book yesterday, his strokes carried more sting and his anticipation was good.

Ho had a bad match. His usually reliable, if not powerful, forehand drive would not work and his volley merely had the effect of keeping the ball in play but he did the right thing and when the Rumjahns were being hard pressed, his lobbing had quite a lot to do with it. At best he serves are erratic although without fault [illegible]

"H.D." Not Well?

I understand that H. D. Rumjahn was not feeling too well and this probably accounted for the fact that Sridar did most of the work in the last two sets. The latter, rather, played as well as he has ever done, his fine recoveries and smooth strokes bringing many points, but when the opposition, in the second set, resorted to lobbing his smash went to bits and he noticeably lost confidence thereafter.

H. D. played well in the later stages and was cool under all circumstances but his play lacked much of the fire of last year. How much he was affected by his indisposition remains to be seen.

The Play

The Rumjahns had little difficulty in the first set, which they won for the loss of three games after leading 3—0. In the second when Ho and Ip started their lobbing tactics, they fell away somewhat and the Chinese pair led at 4—2 and had a good chance of taking the next game on Ho's service, when they led 30—15 and Ho was presented with an easy smash which he placed into the net. The Rumjahns reeled off the next four games for the set.

In the third set the Chinese thanks to Ip's brilliance and Ho's lobbing, had little difficulty in winning at 6—2.

In the early stages of the fourth set it appeared possible that the scores would be levelled. Ho and Ip led 3—1 but the well-known Rumjahn fighting spirit then came to the fore and they wiped off the deficit and went on to 5—3. Leading 40—15 in the ninth game, the Rumjahns failed to take two match points and the score was 5—4. The champions made no mistake with the next game, however, and went out at 6—4.

Other Results

The following were the results of Club matches:—

H'cap Doubles (semi-final): T. C. Monaghan and T. J. Gould beat H. J. Armstrong and P. Wynter-Blyth 3-6, 6-2, 11-9.

H'cap Singles: R. E. Guest beat C. H. R. Oxlade 6-2, 7-5.

To-day's Matches

Following is to-day's Tennis Championship programme:

OPEN DOUBLES

Quarter-Final

W. C. Hung and E. C. Fincher v Tsan Wai-pui and Tsan Yan-pui (Stand Court)

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Semi-Final

R. E. Guest v M. Pagh (8).

SOCCER INTERPORT DETAILS

By "Referee"

Arrangements for the Macao Soccer Interport are now complete and no less than 20 players have accepted the invitation of Hong Kong Football Association to make the trip.

The team will leave Hong Kong on the Sunday morning boat and return on Monday morning.

Unlike the hockey Interport Service men have been included in the party, among these being Bankier and Fraser of Royal Scots, Freshwater and Bright of Middlesex, and LePage, Hendy and Roughley of Royal Navy.

Mr. T. G. Stokes will be in charge of the team and will be assisted by Mr. L. Souza, Assistant Hon. Secretary of Hong Kong Football Association.

K. H. IP.

H.K.F.A. TEAM SELECTED FOR SATURDAY

The following have been selected to represent the Association against the Federation in the final of the Governor's Cup match to be played at Club ground on Saturday, April 19, kick-off at 4 p.m.

Players are requested to report to Capt. R. E. Guest, manager of the Association team, at the dressing room at 3.30 p.m. sharp. Players unable to turn out are requested to communicate with the Secretary before Friday.

Jerseys, shorts and stockings will be supplied.

Bankier (R. Scots), Roughley (Navy), and Fraser (R. Scots), Freshwater (M'sex), Bright (M'sex), Thomas (M'sex); Fowler (Club), LePage (Navy), Howlett (Police), Ferrier (Police), Rhertsen (Club).

Reserves: Lapsley (Kowloon), Sheehan (M'sex), Blackburn (Police), Pope (Police), Hossack (R. Scots), Barber (Navy), Hendy (Navy).

EASTER STAKES WAS THRILLING RACE

By "Rapier"

RACING WAS CONTINUED on Monday and the main event was the Easter Stakes, and, before dealing with the other events, I propose setting down first my impressions of the running of this highly important event.

The excitement of the race will long be remembered; the performance of Oolong, which was admirably ridden by Mr. Needa, was magnificent.

In view of its previous win in record time in the Champions Stakes, Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) was made favourite, with Racylight (Mr. Wei) also highly-favoured. Oolong, on the other hand, was not conceded much of a chance.

Dupont Bay (Mr. Yuen), set a fast pace, with Racylight, Spicylight (Mr. Liang) and Oolong following behind. On the speed at the outset of the race it was apparent that the record would be smashed.

Just after passing the Rock, Mr. Needa sent Oolong forward to overhaul Racylight which by this time was leading, and on the home straight being reached Oolong was in front, with Confusion Bay and Spicylight in close attendance.

These three ponies were featured in a bitter struggle, victory eventually going to Oolong by a head, Confusion Bay was second and Spicylight third. As expected a new record was established.

Great Struggle

Returning to the other events, the result of the first race was a win for Mr. Wei on Longdon, after a great struggle with Rooifly (Mr. Needa).

The third race, the Cabramatta Handicap (First Section) was the best race of the day. Catterick Bridge (Mr. Chao) and Cheerful Star (Mr. Proulx) dead-heating for first place.

Catterick Bridge set a fast pace and was followed by Cheerful Star and Double Finesse (Mr. Tao). This order was maintained until 50 yards from [illegible] Cheerful Star caught Catterick Bridge, the two ponies finishing together. Double Finesse was third a short head behind.

Another Record

In the Albury Handicap for "A" Class Australian ponies, from the 1½ Mile Post, another record was established, this time by Distant View (Mr. Pih).

I cannot understand why Sapper (Mr. Proulx) should have been made favourite. Good as this pony is, I expected that the distance would be too short for it, liking, and this was substantiated, the pony being unplaced.

Distant View took the lead, followed by Sapper and Endeavour (Mr. Wei). On rounding the bend Distant View was still leading, but Sapper was passed by Endeavour. Mr. Wei tried his hardest to catch Distant View but failed by half a length. Meanwhile Vanity Fair (Mr. Black) came up with a last-minute rush to take third place from Sapper.

Favourite Fails

Backed to the extent of 2,704 tickets for a win, Manhattan failed badly in the Wattle Park Handicap over six furlongs. Moonlight's win was not altogether unexpected.

Bendemeer (Mr. Hoo Pak-ming) took the lead, followed by National Welfare (Mr. Chang) and Moonlight. On rounding the bend Moonlight responded to Mr. Wei's call and forged ahead to pass the leaders and win by a length from A Surprising Time (Mr. Black), with the favourite, Manhattan, third another half-length behind.

So Nice, Mr. Tang up caused a big surprise in winning the Kellett Handicap (Second Section), coming home an easy winner to pay $67.30, the best dividend of the meeting.

Musketeer (Mr. R. K. C. Chun) made the running from the start followed by Advancing Time (Mr. Black) and Night Express (Mr. Ip Kui-ying). Night Express was leading on rounding the bend, but was strongly challenged by So Nice. The latter went into the lead at the Two Mile Post to win by many lengths. Odeon (Mr. Tu) was third.

Mr. Wood Causes Surprise

In the Coolgardie Stakes (Second Section), over the Two Mile Post, punters were given another surprise when Mr. Wood brought in Wayworth to pay the second best win dividend of the afternoon. Harmony Star (Mr. S. W. Lee) took the lead, but on rounding the bend was overhauled by Bendigo (Mr. S. W. Pan), followed by Angel of Glory (Mr. Chao) and Bugle (Mr. Wei).

On coming into the straight Bugle went forward to take the lead but Wayworth, coming too strongly on the outside, passed it and went on to win by three lengths. Bendigo was third.

Bitter Pill

Punters had barely recovered from the shock of the previous race when they were called upon to swallow another bitter pill in the second section of the Cabramatta Handicap.

This time Mr. Chang caused the upset on National Courage, which brought off a fine win.

MIDDLEWEIGHT DIVISION IN BOXING BECOMES KNOWN AS MUDDLEWEIGHT

THE MIDDLEWEIGHT division has been in such a muddle for the last decade that fistic fans refer to the 160-pounders as muddleweights, writes Dillon Graham from New York.

Except for short periods the National Boxing Association, the New York commission and other state commissions have been at odds over so-called world champions during most of that stretch.

All boxing authorities can agree on only three world champions—Heavyweight Joe Louis, Light Heavyweight Billy Conn and Bantamweight Lou Salica—but none of the divisions have been quite so puzzling as the muddleweights since Mickey Walker withdrew to take on the heavyweights in 1931.

Just to show you how things went we'll trace the middleweight championship trail back to Walker.

Thil Supported

The N.B.A. ordered an elimination tournament to determine Walker's successor. New York did too. Gorilla Jones technically knocked out Addone Piazza to gain N.B.A. recognition. Ben Jeby grabbed New York designation by defeating Chick Devlin in 1932.

The N.B.A. went along with Marcel Thil when he won from Jones on a foul in France.

The New York version of the title passed in succession through little matches from Jeby to Lou Brouillard to Vince Dundee.

When Thil, as former President Harvey L. Miller of the N.B.A. explains it, "couldn't lose in Paris and won fight after fight on fouls (when no fouls were committed)," the N.B.A. voted to withdraw title recognition and recognised the bout between Dundee and Teddy Yarosz for the title.

Yarosz beat Dundee and was champion of both N.B.A. and New York. The crown passed from Yarosz to Babe Risko and on to Freddie Steele.

Then the two commissions forked off again on separate title roads.

The N.B.A. continued Steele as champion but New York withdrew recognition when Steele refused to fight its candidate, Fred Apostoli, in New York.

Aposto'i had technically knocked out Steele in a non-title fight and previously had knocked out Thil.

The New York commission decided that Apostoli and Young Corbett would fight for the crown. Apostoli knocked out Corbett. Ceferino Garcia beat Apostoli and Ken Overlin won from Garcia.

Steele risked his N.B.A. title against Al Hostak and was knocked out. Solly Krieger kayoed Hostak and was then knocked out by Hostak in a return match. Tony Zale recently won from Hostak.

If a Zale-Overlin match can be arranged a generally accepted champion would emerge. Even then Billy Soose would have to be considered for he has scored non-title decisions over both Zale and Overlin.—Associated Press.

NEW P.O. CLUB BOWLS CONVENER

J. W. Hudson, who was bowls convener for the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last summer, has gone to Australia on four months' leave. The new convener for this Summer is S. Hodge, who has already arranged two intra-Club games, in preparation for the coming season.

TILDEN APPROACHING HIS HALF-CENTURY

POSSESSES A "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH"

THE MAN HAS KEPT his secret long enough. A committee of citizens should go to William Tatum Tilden, the Twice, and demand that he reveal the location of the Fountain of Youth, writes Henry McLemore.

If he wants a price for the whereabouts of the spring whose waters guarantee a perpetual bloom to the cheeks and an unceasing bounce in the legs, then the insurance companies should pool their resources and meet his demands.

Tilden Succeeds

You must agree with me that William Tatum Tilden has succeeded where Ponce de Leon failed. Else how in the world are you going to explain the supernatural endurance of the long legged, lantern-jawed tennis player from Philadelphia? By all normal athletic standards, he should be wearing congress garters, peering with rheumy eyes over spectacles, and indulging in no more violent exercise than thumbing his clippings.

But where is the man? In some quiet retreat, spinning tales of how he felt when he won the No. 1 ranking in 1920? No, he is out banging and barnstorming around the country with a group of youngsters who were playing drop the handkerchief, London Bridge is Falling Down, and making mud pies when he was the world's greates, tennis player.

It was an announcement in the papers that he would play with Alice Marble in a few weeks that turned my thoughts to big Bill. The blurb said, among other things, that Bill was celebrating his 48th birthday, which, if you care to remember, is the third time in three years he has celebrated his 48th birthday. He seems to like the number 48. Having reached it, he apparently has decided to make it his very own. This gives him three legs on it.

Miss Marble Featured

Miss Marble was featured in the publicity, and I think the company's press agent is missing a good bet in not playing up Tilden as the star of the troupe. Not in the time of those now living will tennis lovers see the equal of Big Bill. The Perrys, the Vines, the Budges, and all the rest are marvellous players, but Tilden stands alone.

All you have to do to prove how he stands alone is to ask where his contemporaries in the golden-twenties are to-day. Bobby Jones is a comfortably plump lawyer in Atlanta, Babe Ruth is an uncomfortably fat watcher from the sidelines, Jack Dempsey is a heavy-jowled restaurateur in New York, Tommy Hitchcock has laid down the mallet to become a Wall Streeter. Jim Londos is wrestling punks on the kerosene circuit. Charlie Paddock's interests in spikes are limited to those on his newspaper desk. These, and others, were the men who made of the 1920's what Paul Gallico so aptly called the "Golden Decade in sports."

Tilden Carries On

Of them all, only Tilden carries on, and he doesn't carry on in a doddering, pathetic fashion, either. How many tennis players are there in the world who could beat him in a one-set match to-day? Budge might, and the redhead is about the only one. And in a five-set, regulation match, there aren't more than half a dozen players you'd care to bet on to lick the Philadelphian. His legs are still spry enough to make him a fine coverer, and what his legs lack is more than made up by what he carries around in that head of his. As long ago as 1918 Tilden was No. 2 in national ranking—23 years—but still he continues to play and play well. Indoor courts, clay courts, en-toutcas courts, grass courts, cement courts, good lights, bad lights, they are all the same to him.

When he reaches my town I want to see him. It may be my last chance before the Smithsonian Institute scouts pick him up and put him in a glass cage next to Eli Whitney's cotton gin. Too, I want a slug of that Fountain of Youth water he carries around in his canteen. And I'll take it straight.

TENNIS ENTRIES EXTENDED

As only a small number of tennis League entries were received up to yesterday, the closing date has been extended to April 23.

MACAO TEAM BEATEN

A scratch hockey team, comprising players from Central British Association, Police and Recreio, beat Macao Lyceum 2-0 on the C.B.A. ground yesterday.

The local team scored in the first half, Taylor converting a short-corner. Yvanovich broke through in the second half to add the second goal.

The local team was:- T. L. Lockhart (C.B.A.); J. B. Gonsalves (Recreio), A. M. Xavier (Nomads); J. Heywood (Police), C. Gough (Police), A. M. Alves (Recreio); P. Yvanovich (Recreio), D. Taylor (C.B.A.), N. D. Whitley (C.B.A.), J. Fonseca (Recreio), A. Odell (C.B.A.).

CORRESPONDENCE

To The Sports Editor,
"The China Mail".

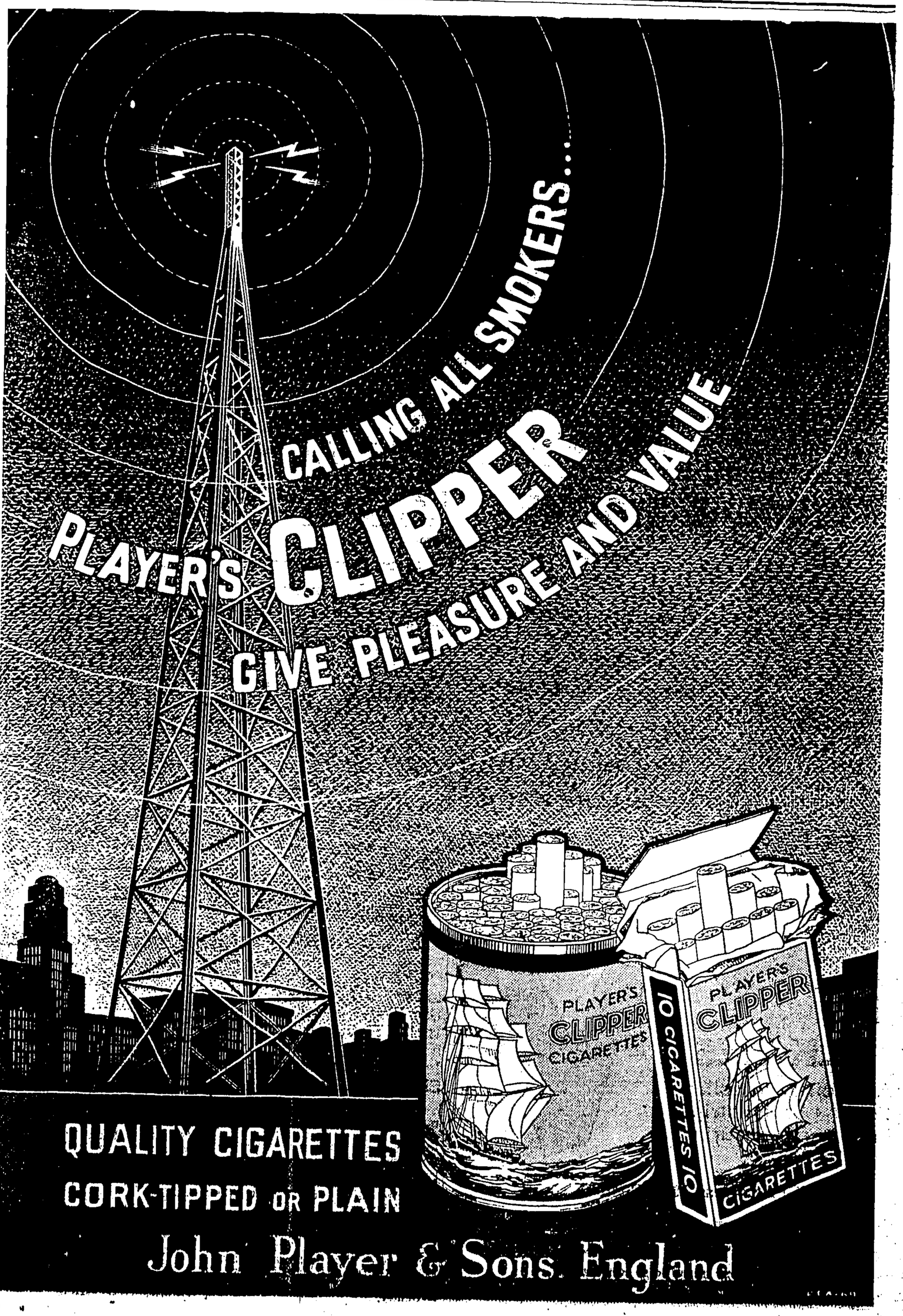
Sir—It has been brought to my attention that Pte. Noble, Middlesex Regiment, who is the Army lightweight boxing champion on this Station is ready to meet anyone in the Colony who can make the weight.

I, as holder of the bantam-featherweight titles, would like to meet Noble over 15 three-minute rounds.

I can find a promoter to stage the fight and if Noble is interested I shall be glad if he will accept my challenge in your columns.

And while I am on the subject of boxing, I am greatly disappointed that Len Collins has so far failed to sign the contract for a fight with me, although a promoter has already been found.

Sal Aromin



ITALIAN GENERAL CAPTURED ON A MULE!

End Of East African Campaign Within Sight

Little Left To Do Except Round Up Prisoners

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent at Addis Abbaba)

GENERAL PESANTI, ITALIAN DIVISIONAL COMMANDER WHOSE CAPTURE WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY, WAS OVERTAKEN BY IMPERIAL FORCES WHEN PLODDING ALONG ON A MULE BETWEEN A REMOTE VILLAGE AND ADDIS ABABA.

He is now occupying the bedroom of General Santini, who has been removed to an unknown destination.

Another prisoner is Colonel Rolle, leader of the notorious banda (native) group. He, with a staff of 11 officers and 700 banda, was captured near the Awash River by two South African subalterns (one of whom was a grandson of General Botha) and 17 men.

Two enemy bodies, 600 strong, approaching to surrender from different directions, and with nerves on edge, opened fire on each other.

Six were killed before a South African regiment intervened and took them prisoner.

British columns are now at the heels of the retreating Italians in three main sectors, namely Mussolini Pass, 100 miles from Addis Ababa on the Dessie road, in the heart of the Arussia Mountains east of the Abyssinian lakes, and on the Omo River, on the way to Jimma.

Melting Away

Abyssinian patriots are increasingly helping to disintegrate the Duke of Aosta's forces. They are showing restraint, however, and are permitting the Italians to reach the British lines.

A colonel of the Transvaal Regiment met an army of 10,000 patriots headed 6 foot 3 inches Ras Gurassu, who informed him the South Africans' flank was threatened by two Italian battalions.

The colonel thereupon sent a letter to the Italians threatening to attack with "my big guns, tanks and Gurassu." The Italians melted away overnight.—Reuter.

Ceaseless Streams Of Prisoners

A ceaseless stream of Italian prisoners continues to come in at Addis Ababa although the Italian troops were evacuated from there.

Several battalions have been taken complete.

A communique issued in Nairobi says that Italian native units are losing numbers of deserters and in one case these formed themselves into bands which are operating independently against the Italians now.—Reuter.

NAVY SHELLS NAZIS

Ships of the Royal Navy are constantly and successfully harrasing enemy operations on the Libyan coast by bombardment.

This is stated in a report by the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, given in an Admiralty communique yesterday.

Enemy positions and transport columns on the escarpment road west of Sollum have been bombarded with particularly good results.

El Gazala aerodrome to the west of Tobruk has also been heavily bombarded from the sea and at least five aircraft destroyed on the ground.—Reuter.

COMPULSORY SERVICE IN MALTA

Under Malta's compulsory service scheme, a second age group—22's and 23's—will be called up on Monday.—Reuter.

NAVICERTS FOR FRENCH SHIPS

Two French ships provided with British navicerts are leaving New York to-day for Marseilles with 13,500 tons of United States flour for unoccupied France.—Reuter.

IMPORTANT EVENTS PREDICTED

Colonel Popoff, the Soviet military expert, reviewing the situation in North Africa in the newspaper "Red Star," expects "rather important" developments in the next few days.

He cites the "considerable increase" in the activity of the R.A.F. in North Africa as indicative of coming events.

"The British Command is doubtless preparing a counter-blow. Where the blow will come from is difficult to say. It may be from the Tobruk region, Siwa Oasis or Mersa Matruh," he adds.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

To improve the local rice situation and at the same time to curb the activities of unscrupulous rice dealers, Government has imported a large quantity of rice which will be made available directly to the general public within a day or two.

The price of Government rice has been fixed at $14.23 (wholesale) and $14.80 (retail) per picul, this being lower than the standard price fixed by the Controller of Food.

The rice which Government has imported is of the best quality and any member of the public wishing to purchase a few bags, may do so by applying to the offices of the Food Controller in the Exchange Building where delivery orders will be issued.

The air raid alarm, sounding at an early hour in London last night, introduced what shortly afterwards appeared to be one of the biggest raids on the British metropolis for some time.

Enemy 'planes began to drone their way over London in waves immediately after the sirens had died away.

A.A. guns hurled shells into the air over a wide area with the heaviest racket of this year.

Over one outer district a large number of flares lit up the streets and many 'planes were heard flying much lower than in previous raids.

One German bomber was blown out of the sky within a few minutes of the alert while flying at about 5,000 feet.

High explosive bombs fell in one London district soon after.

R.A.F. fighters soared to attack the Luftwaffe and machine-gun fire was heard as the enemy was engaged.—Reuter.

THE FOUR CHINESE GOVERNMENT BANKS IN SHANGHAI HAVE SUSPENDED BUSINESS IN THE CITY, WHILE THE CHINA DOLLAR HAS DROPPED TO 3-3/16D.

AN OFFICIAL OF ONE OF THE BANKS TOLD REUTER THIS MORNING: "WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ALL THE GOVERNMENT BANKS WILL REOPEN FOR BUSINESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. NOTHING IS YET DEFINITE."—REUTER.

JAPAN'S FLYING SUBMARINES?

Japanese military and naval activities in South China have increased following the conclusion of the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact, according to a report appearing in a leading Chinese paper in Shanghai.

The report says the whole of the Japanese forces in South China are now being reorganised for a possible southward penetration and that more than 20 Japanese submarines have appeared in South China waters and have extended their activities to the Bay of Bengal!

It is further stated that Japanese troops in Hainan, the island off the coast of French Indo-China, have been impressing able-bodied Chinese workers to form a South China Sea transport corps.—Reuter.

FIERCE NAZI ATTACKS ON ALLIED POSITIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

"DESPITE THEIR TREMENDOUS EFFORTS THE GERMANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE AT ANY POINT TO PIERCE THE NEW GREEK LINE OF RESISTANCE.

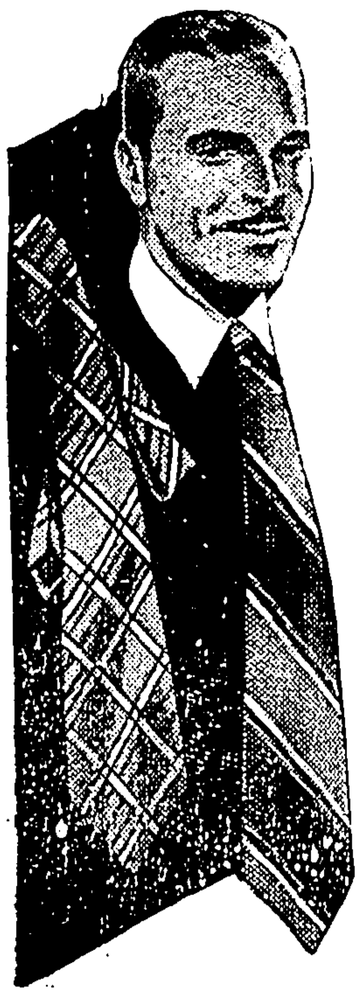
"While the situation on the northern Greek front is still serious there are good grounds for hope.

R.A.F. Plays Havoc

"On the Albanian front the Greeks have repulsed local Italian attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

"The R.A.F. again distinguished themselves, playing havoc with German columns on the march and heavily attacking enemy supply bases."—Reuter.

WOOL & MOHAIR TIES



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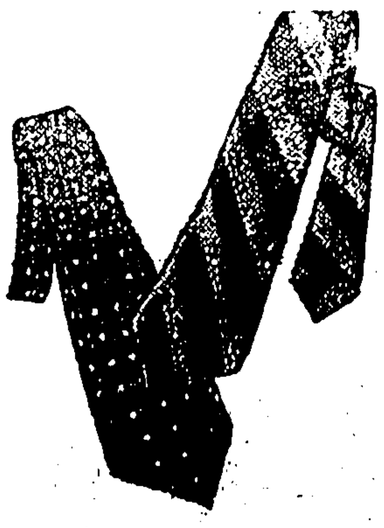

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GERMANS IN LIBYA STOPPED See Page 2 SECOND ED.

CHINA MAIL

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FIERCE NAZI ATTACKS ON ALLIED POSITIONS

Wishful German Thinking In Break Through Rumour

THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION FROM THE GREEK OR BRITISH COMMANDS IN GREECE OF A RUMOUR DERIVED FROM GERMAN SOURCES THAT THE ALLIED LINE HAS BEEN BROKEN IN THE MOUNT OLYMPUS SECTOR AND THAT THE PLAIN OF LARISSA, IN CONSEQUENCE, HAS BEEN LAID OPEN TO THE GERMAN ADVANCE, SAYS A BRITISH WAR OFFICE COMMUNIQUE.

Heavy fighting, however, is taking place in more than one sector of the Allied line, the communique adds.

Well-informed circles in Cairo stated yesterday that operations in Greece consist mainly of "feeling forward" by the Germans, who are endeavouring to ascertain the disposition of the British forces by means of patrols.

There are no signs yet of a major attack, it was added.

The battle in Western Macedonia which began on Monday, is now in full progress, Athens radio said last night.

The announcer added that the Greek army has inflicted serious losses on the Germans.

After their slight push westwards on Monday the Germans tried to make further progress on Tuesday and brought very considerable forces into play, supported by the German air force.

(Continued on Page 16)

BIG RAID ON LONDON

The air raid alarm, sounding at an early hour in London last night, introduced what shortly afterwards appeared to be one of the biggest raids on the British Metropolis for some time.

Enemy 'planes began to drone their way over London in waves immediately after the sirens had died away.

A.A. guns hurled shells into the air over a wide area with the heaviest racket of this year.

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R.A.F. fighters soared to attack the Luftwaffe and machine-gun fire was heard as the enemy was engaged.—Reuter.

MERSEY FIRE BLITZ

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Thousands of firebombs, mingled with high explosives, were dumped on Liverpool during Tuesday night as German raiders carried out one of the war's most widespread attacks on Britain.

Casualties are reported both in Liverpool and London.

Blazing A.A. fire from defence posts all over Britain accounted for at least two Nazi 'planes.

Throughout the evening great fleets of Nazi aircraft were beaten off as they struck across the British coast, but many penetrated the outer British defences and bombed London and a dozen other sections.

A stick of high explosive bombs dropped on one section of the capital by high-flying raiders caused several casualties and buried several persons under debris.—International News Service.

DUKE OF AOSTA SUING FOR SURRENDER?

It was learned in well-informed quarters in Cairo yesterday that an envoy of the Duke of Aosta, Viceroy of Abyssinia, has arrived at the headquarters of General Cunningham, who is directing British operations in East Africa.—Reuter.

IMMIGRATION REPORT RUMOURS

THIS MORNING IT WAS AUTHORITATIVELY LEARNED THAT THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION WHICH INQUIRED INTO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE IMMIGRATION OFFICER, MR. R. A. D. FORREST, AND HIS STAFF, HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Reports in circulation that the Immigration Officer has been "exonerated from blame" by the findings of the Commission, failed to draw confirmation or denial in Government quarters.

The Hon. Mr. N. L. Smith, Colonial Secretary, replying to the "China Mail," said: "I cannot say anything about that. The report has been sent to the Governor, but no action has yet been taken."

EIGHT FOR THE NIGHT

It was learned in London yesterday that two more enemy bombers were destroyed over England on Tuesday night, making a total of eight for the night.—Reuter.

HITLER'S BALKAN FOLLY

Anne McCormick, the New York columnist, says the Balkan campaign is costing Hitler more than it will be worth if he wins.

What will Germany gain on this peninsula that she has not had before? she asks. Britain may lose her toe-hold on the Continent, which will not affect the war's outcome.

The Yugoslavs and Greeks may suffer what they suffered yesterday and come back stronger than ever.

But the Germans are paying heavily for what they expected to be delivered gratis.

The most the Nazis can win is two more hostile populations to police, more sabotage and reduced supplies.

The labour that served them has been diverted to fighting, and damaged towns, railways and farmlands will take months to repair.—Reuter.

STEEL PRICES IN U.S. FIXED

An order freezing steel prices at the level that prevailed in the first quarter, has been issued by Mr. Leon Anderson, American Price Administrator, says Reuter from New York.

ENTIRE CONVOY TRAPPED BY NAVY

See Page 3

PETAIN STOPS DARLAN

Marshal Petain, according to reports reaching Washington, recently thwarted Admiral Darlan when the latter attempted one of his anti-British programmes.

These reports, which are confirmed from two high sources, declare that Marshal Petain, having learned accidentally that Darlan had given orders for French Fleet units, including the battleship "Dunkerque," to be moved from North Africa to Toulon, summoned Darlan to give an explanation.

Darlan is stated to have replied evasively and then to have launched into an anti-British tirade.

Marshal Petain thereupon issued special written instructions forbidding the movement of any French warship without his prior knowledge.—Reuter.

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German Advance Through Libya Brought To A Halt

COVENTRY MOURNS BLITZ VICTIMS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Three thousand mourners followed a long line of coffins through the blitzed streets of Coventry as the town held another mass burial service for those killed in the latest German raid

It is reported that another mass burial is pending, indication of the terrific toll taken in the latest German blitz - International News Service

NORWEGIAN COAST RAID

The Norwegian Admiralty in London yesterday revealed the name of the place on the Norwegian coast which was successfully raided last Saturday.

It was Oek Fjord, near Hammerfest

The statement adds that the object of the raid was to destroy the fish oil factory, the output of which was being taken by Germany and which was of great importance in the manufacture of explosives.

All machinery in the factory was destroyed.

There was no interference from German troops, aircraft or warships. Reuter

REPUDIATE THEIR OWN PROPAGANDA!

Rumours current abroad of negotiations being conducted for a cessation of hostilities in the Balkans, are not confirmed by political circles in Berlin, said a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman in the Nazi capital yesterday.

A semi-official statement says: "It is doubtful whether there are any quarters in Serbia which would be able to negotiate an authoritative agreement on this score.

"Military events in Serbia have entered a stage where an armistice is out of the question as," so claimed the Nazi spokesman, "the Serbian army, as such, is completely annihilated."—Reuter.

HUNDREDS OF EXHAUSTED PRISONERS TAKEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BRITISH QUARTERS in Cairo reported that the swift German and Italian advance into Egypt from Libya has finally been stopped.

Suffering from lack of water and food and exhausted by the swift campaign in the Libyan desert inferno, the German mechanised troops have been halted by the stone wall of British defences east of Sollum, according to army circles.

Hundreds of German prisoners, unaccustomed to fighting under such desert conditions, were found to be in "the last stage of exhaustion" when taken outside Tobruk in the first important British counter attack in the present phase of the war.

The Germans said they had been without food and water for days and lacked the strength to obey orders for another swift advance.

While attacking Tobruk in an attempt to rescue the British garrison there, Imperial troops have taken up strong defence positions between Sollum and Mersa Matruh International News Service

Situation Stationary

The Libyan situation has been stationary for the last four days, according to well-informed circles in Cairo yesterday.

While patrol activity continues in the Sollum area, on the Egyptian border, there has been occasional hard fighting. Enemy losses run into hundreds, it is stated.

There is no indication that the Nazis have increased the strength of their forward units. Reuter

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN BADLANDS

A Chinese was shot dead and another seriously wounded early this morning in a terrorist shooting in the Shanghai "badland"

The outrage is reported to have occurred in a dormitory occupied by Bank of China employees, and is believed to be a reprisal for the shooting of an employee of the Central Reserve Bank yesterday —Reuter.

U.S. SHIP STOPPED BY RAIDER

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stopped two days out of Lisbon by a ship believed to be a German raider, the American Export liner "Cambion" has arrived in New York with 189 passengers on board, of whom 75 were American.—International News Service.

RICKENBACKER ON WAY TO HEALTH

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was announced in Atlanta yesterday that Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, the American World War ace, who was critically injured in a 'plane crash six weeks ago, will probably leave hospital before the end of next month.—International News Service.

NAVY SHELLS NAZIS

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"The British Command is doubtless preparing a counter-blow. Where the blow will come from is difficult to say. It may be from the Tobruk region, Siwa Oasis or Mersa Matruh," he adds. —Reuter.

Dr. Dafoe Operated On

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

IT WAS REVEALED IN NORTH BAY (ONTARIO) YESTERDAY THAT DR. A. R. DAFOE, THE QUINTS' SURGEON, UNDERWENT A MAJOR OPERATION IN TORONTO.

His brother, Dr. W. A. Dafoe, said his condition was satisfactory and his chances good, though a blood transfusion had to be given him.—International News Service.

ROOSEVELT CONDEMNS HUNGARY

President Roosevelt proclaimed yesterday that a state of war exists between Hungary and Yugoslavia, and added that Hungary attacked Yugoslavia "without justification."

Effect of the proclamation is to place these two nations under the United States Neutrality regulations. Reuter.

HUNGARIAN INVASION BOMBAST

The progress of the Hungarian invasion of Yugoslavia is recorded in a High Command communique from Budapest. It states: "Our troops today occupied the south-western portion of trans-Danubia up to the Croat frontier.

"Mopping up of the region between the Rivers Danube and Tisza and the enumeration of war prisoners and booty is proceeding.

"According to present indications the number of prisoners totals 15,000 and is increasing. The booty includes about 100 guns and very valuable material."- Reuter.

ALL WILL BE WELL In The End

"Have faith in Yugoslavia and in my son and all will be well in the end," was the message which Queen Marie of Yugoslavia gave to Reuter when interviewed yesterday in her 13th Century cottage in England.

The Queen declared King Peter took the decision to fight rather than surrender without consulting her, but his decision was not unexpected to her, seeing that he always placed his country's interests before everything.

The Queen, who was lying on a couch wrapped up in a rug, and how sorry he was that illness had prevented her being at her son's side and sharing his hardships while their country was fighting for it, life

She had been a little worried when for a week she received no news from King Peter but after Belgrade was bombed she heard he was safe and well.—Reuter.

FAMOUS BROKER NOW A PRIVATE

WITH HIS SALARY DROPPING FROM $48,000 A YEAR TO $21 A MONTH, MR. W. M. MARTIN, JR., PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, YESTERDAY BECAME A PRIVATE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

MARTIN EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD ENTER THE WAR. — REUTER.

TWO GERMAN SPEARHEADS IN GREEK THRUST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

ALTHOUGH THE GERMAN ADVANCE, CONSISTING OF TWO SPEAR-HEADS, HAS PUSHED 40 MILES INTO GREECE, THE ITALIAN TROOPS ON THE ALBANIAN FRONT WHO FOLLOWED UP THE RETIRING GREEKS SUFFERED "SERIOUS LOSSES" WHEN THE HELLENIC WARRIORS TURNED ON THE FOE IN FURIOUS REARGUARD FIGHTS.

Covered by successful counter-attacks the Greeks and British all along the northern Greek front have completed the falling back operations in perfect order to strongly fortified positions for the decisive battle of the new Olympic Line.

It was admitted in Athens that fast-moving German armoured units have reached the western outlet of the Siatista Pass, 12 miles south-west of the strategic town of Kozani.

Other Nazi units attacking another sector of the Anglo-Greek line nearby have occupied Klissura Pass, which is 20 miles north of the town of Siatista.—International News Service.

MORE PRISONERS REACH S. AFRICA

A further batch of 2,500 Italian prisoners, including officers, were landed at a port in the Union of South Africa yesterday. Enemy prisoners in the Union now total 10,000. — Reuter.

ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY TRAPPED

Five Supply Ships And Three Destroyers Sunk

Ammunition Ship Goes Up With Terrific Explosion

AN ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY, CONSISTING OF FIVE SUPPLY SHIPS, ESCORTED BY THREE DESTROYERS, AND BOUND FROM SICILY FOR TRIPOLI, WAS SUNK ON TUESDAY NIGHT BY BRITISH NAVAL FORCES.

Announcing this in London yesterday the Admiralty states: "Two of the supply ships were vessels of about 5,000 tons, heavily laden with motor transport. These were sunk.

"Another was an ammunition ship of about 4,000 tons which blew up with a terrific explosion. The other two ships, of about 3,000 tons, also blew up.

"THE CONVOY WAS ESCORTED BY THE ITALIAN DESTROYER "LUCA TARIGO," OF 1,628 TONS, AND TWO SMALLER DESTROYERS. ALL THREE WERE SUNK.

"The Admiralty regret to announce that during this successful operation H.M.S. Mohawk was hit by torpedoes and sunk.

The majority of the ship's complement including the commanding officer, were rescued." Reuter.

Mohawk was a destroyer of 1,870 tons and was commissioned in 1938. She carried eight 4.7-inch guns.

HUGE R.F.C. LOAN TO B.A.T.

Mr. Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, announced in Washington yesterday that a $40,000,000 loan has been granted to the Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corporation.

This, he said, was "in line with the policy of the U.S. Government to require the liquidation of British-owned American investments for the purpose of providing funds for the purchase of supplies in this country."

Brown and Williamson's will apply $15,000,000 to liquidate domestic indebtedness and will turn over the remainder to the parent company, the British-American Tobacco Co., which in turn will hand this sum to the British Government to pay for purchases of war materials.

Mr. Jones said the net proceeds of the loan were estimated to be what the net realisable sum would be to the British owners if these investments in the U.S. were sold outright or the companies liquidated.

First Instance

This is the first instance of aid by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the liquidation of British investments.

The B.A.T. retains its ownership in all Brown and Williamson stock, which is being pledged with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as security.—Reuter.

CHUNGKING AIR RAID DEVICE

A review of the Chungking Air Raid Corps took place yesterday morning. More than 4,500 members carrying all forms of air raid relief equipment participated.

Mr. Ku Chen-kang, Minister of Social Welfare and concurrently Captain of the Corps, addressed the gathering.

It is learned that the Chungking Air Raid Defence Headquarters has invented a new device showing the movements of enemy 'planes as an additional air raid precaution in Chungking. The device is made of a wooden board, on which is drawn a map of the provinces of Szechwan, Shensi, Hupeh, Hunan and Kweichow with Chungking as centre. The distance of every 50 kilometres is indicated with a red and green circle. Small tracks are run through these circles to which are affixed tiny aeroplanes that can freely move about. Thus by looking at the device the residents will know how far the enemy 'planes are from Chungking.

The device will be installed at all important approaches throughout the municipality of Chungking. — Central News.

MR. EDEN GIVES A LUNCHEON

MR ANTHONY EDEN, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, GAVE A LUNCHEON IN LONDON IN HONOUR OF MR. QUO TAI-CHI, THE RETIRING CHINESE AMBASSADOR.

The following accepted invitations:—Dr. Chen Wei-cheng, Dr. Kuo Ping-wen, Captain Lung Yung-hsien, Major Chen Pin-kai, Mr. R. A. Butler, Mr. C. R. Attlee, Mr. L. S. Amery, Sir Archibald Sinclair, Sir Alexander Cadogan and Sir Frederick Leith-Ross.—Reuter.

WAR MATERIALS IN ITALIAN SHIPS

Certain war materials have been found on board some of the Italian ships in Mexican harbours which have been taken over by the Mexican Government.

This was disclosed yesterday by the officer in charge of Mexican units now controlling the vessels. Exact nature of the materials was not disclosed.—Reuter.

NAZI WAR ON THE CHURCH

The anti-Catholic activities of Nazi Germany were condemned last night by the Vatican radio.

The announcer said that since 1933 the Catholic Church in Germany had lost all its schools, ecclesiastical organisations and newspapers except for a few weeklies which were unable to answer Nazi attacks on the Catholic religion.

Everything was being done to eliminate Catholic teachers from the National-Socialist system.

Under a decree just issued all wishing to enter Holy Orders had first to join a labour camp from which they could not get away without permission.

"This will be the end of religion in Germany," the announcer commented. Reuter.

NEW FACES IN THEIR LUGGAGE

The Government's glamour girls—mannequins chosen to go to South America with Britain's hush-hush model dress display—will be taking a change of complexion with them. "New faces," packed in air-tight containers, will be part of their luggage.

Some of them are taking three or four shades of complexions which will enable them gradually to tone their faces to the changed climate.

Blonde expert Thelma Besant, who has travelled the world for a firm of British cosmetic manufacturers, is responsible for some of the mannequins' face changes.

The Right Tone

"There is nothing like the change of climate for changing the natural colour of your complexion," she told a reporter.

"Some go a bronzy shade, some the duller shade of brown. You can judge what types turn what shades. It is just a matter of finding the right tone of make-up and a tone to match personality, eye and hair colours.

"The treatment of skins should vary, too, according to climate."

U.S. NOT INTERVENING WITH EIRE

Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, indicated yesterday that the U.S. Government has no intention of asking Eire to grant naval bases to Britain.

He said that contrary to various rumours there had been no discussion, much less negotiation, on the question with Eire officials in Washington. Reuter.

Britain's Ace Night Pilot

The British pilot of a night-fighter shot down no fewer than three German bombers on Tuesday night, the Air Ministry announces.

The ace, who recently was awarded the D.F.C. and was promoted commander of his squadron for marked ability in night fighting, has now destroyed 10 nocturnal raiders.

A fellow pilot shot down two, bringing the squadron's total bag to five. Reuter.

U.S. ARMY AGE LIMIT PROBLEM

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

President Roosevelt revealed that he is studying proposals to lower the age limits for selective service in the Army but no decision is likely to be made until September.

Official quarters think the new limits will be 18 to 25 years.—International News Service.

COLIMA QUAKE DISASTER

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Scores were killed and more than 500 injured in the city of Colima, on the west coast of Mexico, when the violent earthquake felt throughout Mexico levelled the city and left it in ruins.

Half the city was destroyed by the 'quake, and scores of fires broke out, threatening the remainder.

The volcano of Colima, only 25 miles north of the city erupted violently, adding to the dangers threatening the stricken populace of 30,000. International News Service.

Worse Than Feared!

Most of the 15,000 inhabitants of Colima are believed to be either killed or injured, states a Reuter despatch from Mexico City.

Three-quarters of the town are reported to have been destroyed in the 'quake.—Reuter.

GERMAN DEMAND IN U.S.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

GERMANY FIRED A NEW ROUND IN THE AXIS BOMBARDMENT OF PROTESTS AGAINST THE SEIZURE OF 30 GERMAN AND ITALIAN SHIPS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHEN SHE LODGED A DEMAND WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE MOTORSHIP "ARAUCA," TAKEN OVER AT PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA.

The Italian Government has already filed four protests over the seizure of 28 Fascist vessels.—International News Service.

R.A.F. SHATTERS LUFTWAFFE IN GREECE

(By Reuter's Correspondent in Greece)

BRITISH PILOTS ARE FIGHTING HERE WITH FEARLESS FEROCITY AGAINST GOERING'S LUFTWAFFE.

In the short time since the Germans started their latest aggression in the Balkans one R.A.F. squadron alone has brought down 100 German 'planes.

One young British pilot officer has bagged five German 'planes in the last three days.

SALIENT FACT IN THE PRESENT AIR WAR OVER GREECE IS THAT THE GERMANS ARE EMPLOYING A LARGE FLEET OF DIVE-BOMBERS IN ATTACKS ON IMPERIAL TROOPS AND HARBOURS, BUT MANY BOMBS ARE FALLING HARMLESSLY ON MOUNTAINSIDES OR IN THE SEA, FOR NO AIRCRAFT CAN POSSIBLY CONCENTRATE ON BOMB AIMING WHEN A SPEEDY BRITISH HAWKER HURRICANE FIGHTER PERSISTENTLY ATTACKS CLOSE TO ITS TAIL.

Result of all these air battles has been a considerable depletion of the German dive-bombers.—Reuter.

BLACK-OUT DECISION

The Immigration Officer announces that because of the black-out this evening, there will be no examination of ship's passengers after 6 p.m.

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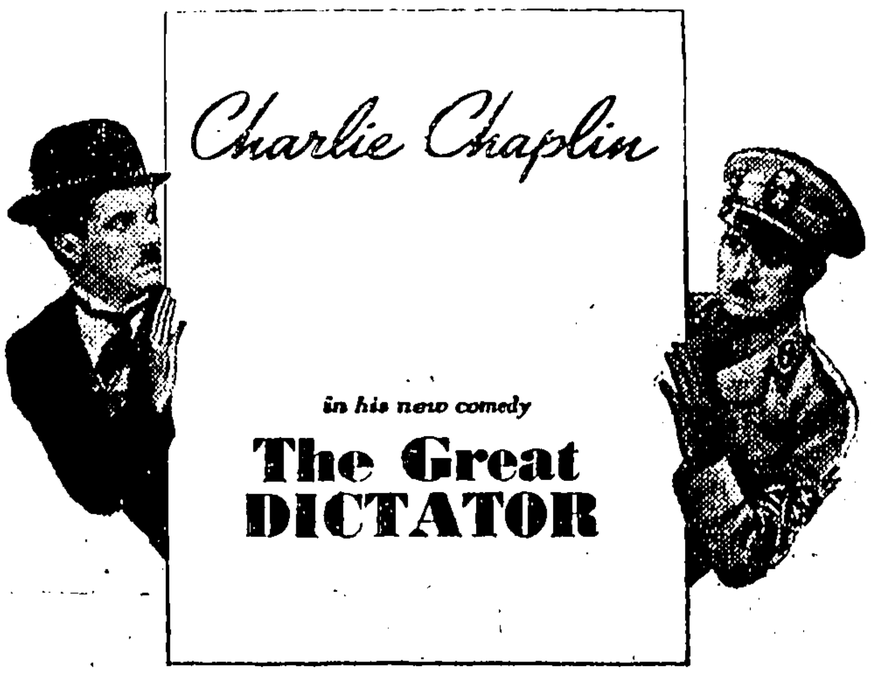

Admission: $3.00, $2.00, $1.20 & 70c. INCL. TAX

BRITISH WARSHIP REPAIR PRIORITY

British warships brought to the United States for repairs are given priority over everything else in Navy yards, declared Col. Frank Knox, Secretary for Navy, to his press conference in Washington yesterday.

This would inevitably affect the Navy's own shipbuilding programme but he hoped the two-ocean navy would not be delayed as a result.

Col. Knox said the British battleship Malaya, which recently arrived in New York, was only the first of a number of vessels expected to enter United States harbours for repairs.

While saying it would be highly improper to discuss the possibility of the U.S. Navy convoying forces to Greenland, Col. Knox hinted that the Navy had such plans in mind by declaring "Every well-run Navy tries to have plans for every contingency, and this is such a contingency."—Reuter.

CANADIAN PREMIER'S QUEST

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Premier, who has gone to Washington to confer with President Roosevelt, had a long conversation with the U.S. Minister, Mr. Pierrepont Moffat, before leaving.

It has been tentatively arranged for Mr King and President Roosevelt to journey together to Warm Springs for their conference.

It is understood that one of the chief subjects to be discussed will be the setting up of a "credit account" under the Lease and Lend Act for Canadian war purchases in the United States, now running at the rate of a billion dollars a year.—International News Service.

Tea At White House

The Canadian Premier, Mr Mackenzie King, who was expected in Washington yesterday, was invited to tea at the White House by President Roosevelt.

Over the tea cups it was expected the two statesmen would hold a highly important conference bearing upon war problems.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI TERRORISM

Two Chinese policemen and a Chinese guard were injured when a hand-grenade was thrown into the home of Judge Feng Sze-tuck, acting Judge in Chungking's Second Kiangsu High Court, in the International Settlement of Shanghai at 3 o'clock this morning.

The guards opened fire but without result.—Reuter.

U.S. COAL MINES TO RE-OPEN

Most of the closed soft coal mines in the United States will reopen soon following an announcement yesterday that the United Mineworkers, the Congress of Industrial Organisations and the coal operators had reached an agreement in the dispute over wages.—Reuter.

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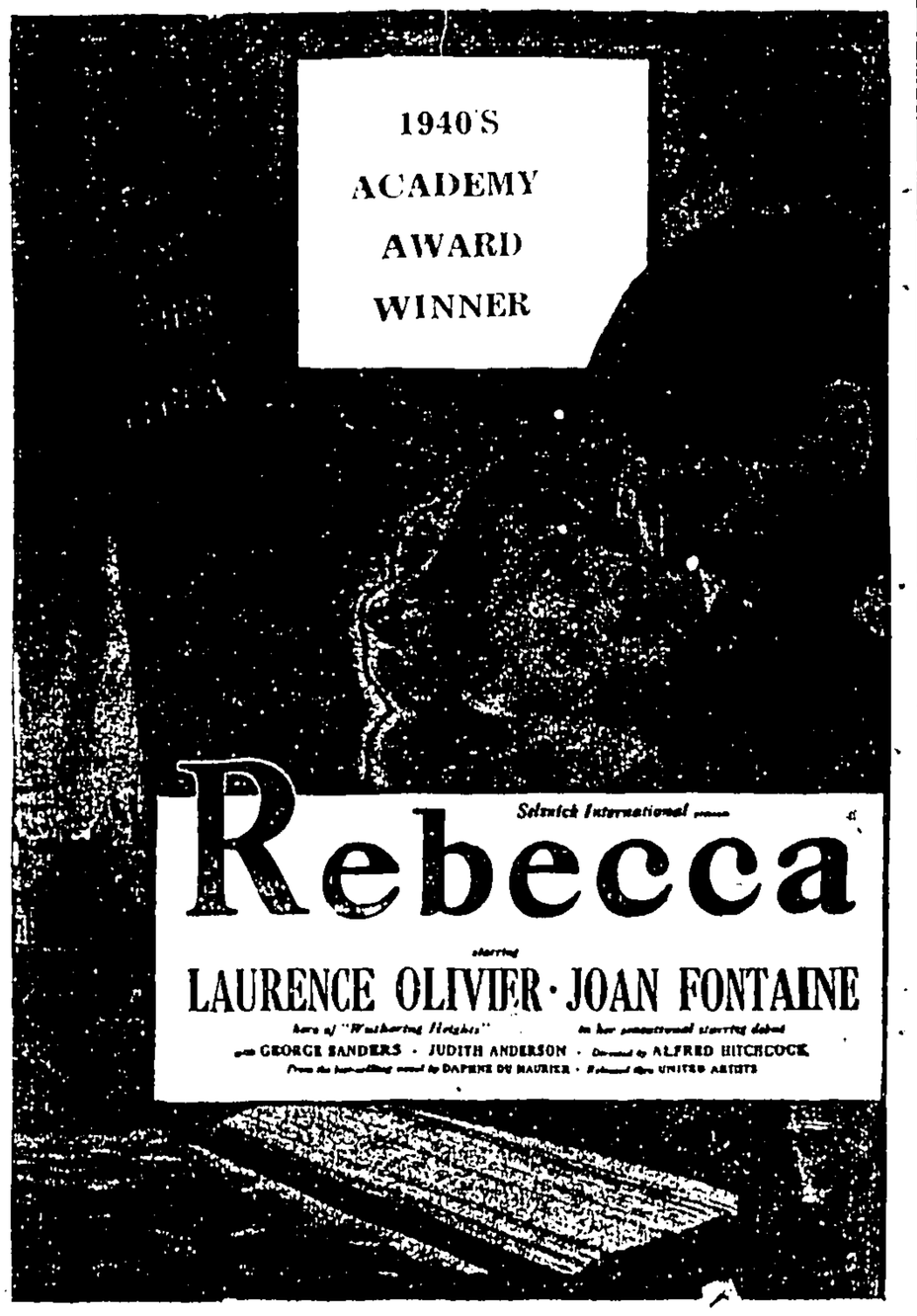

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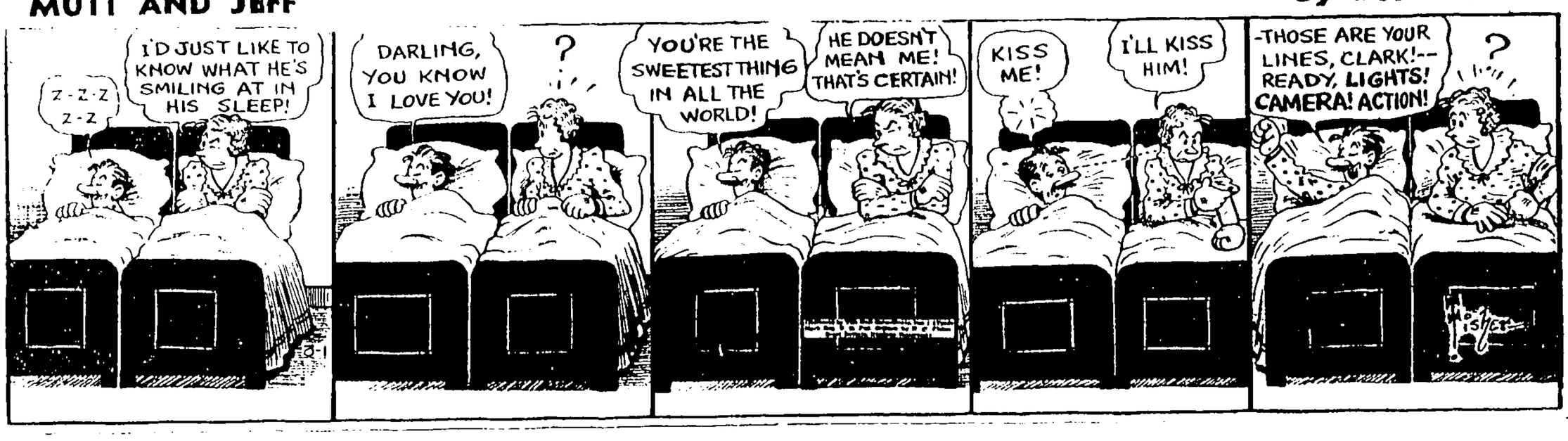
By BUD FISHER



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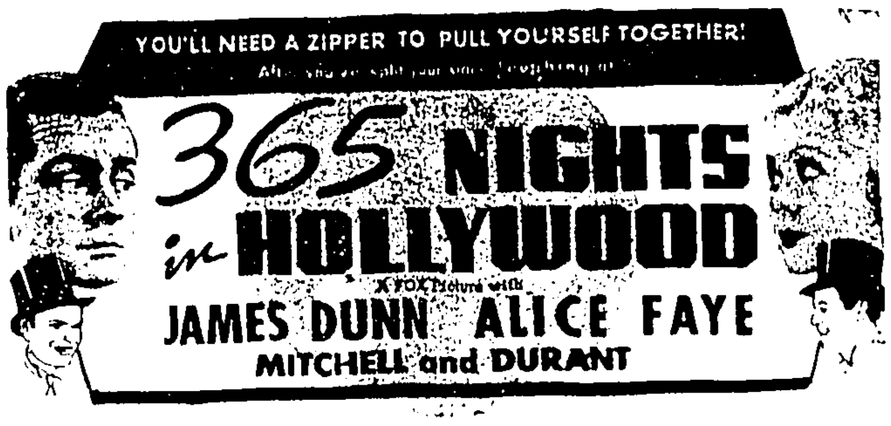

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Alice Faye — Eleanor Powell

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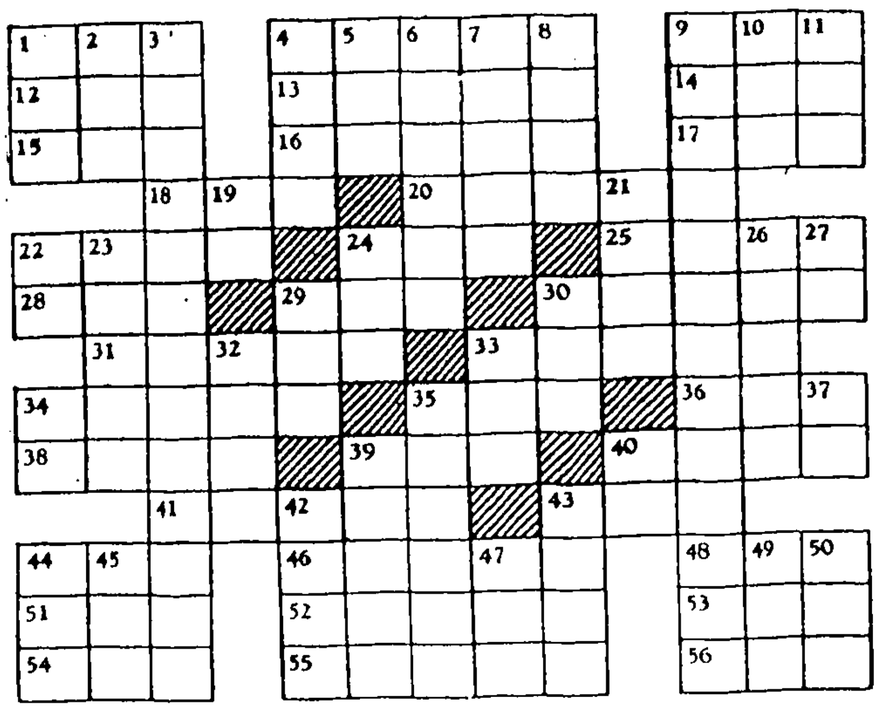
Ginger Rogers — David Niven

OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



HORIZONTAL
1 Seed covering
4 Examinations
9 Church seat
12 Beverage
13 Memento
14 High note
15 Used to be
16 Girl's name
17 Beam
18 Young dog
20 Moves quickly
22 Egyptian deity
24 Chess pieces
25 Poisonous tree
26 Pouch
29 Ethiopian title
30 To incite
31 Moorish drum
33 English coins
34 Fanatical
35 Cereal grass
36 Constellation
38 Wife of Geraint
39 To irritate
40 Does
41 Even
43 Hawaiian dish
44 Silkworm
46 Angry
48 Poetic: to unclose
51 Rodent
52 Compound ether
53 Vase
54 Some
55 Cut of meat
56 Earth

VERTICAL
1 Animal's foot
2 Palm leaf
3 Contemptibleness
4 Snare
5 Poetic: nightfall
6 Slips
7 Giant
8 Cicatrix
9 Clear-sighted
10 Guido's high note
11 Manner
19 You and me
21 To change
22 Exists
23 The devil
24 To disfigure
26 To ward off
27 Compass point
29 Length measure
30 River in England
32 To tolerate
33 To test in fineness and weight
34 Note of scale
35 To tell
37 While
39 Russian measure of length
40 Indo-Chinese language
42 Contends
43 To lift quickly
44 Epoch
45 Sped
47 Beverage
49 Prefix: in
50 Finish favour of

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

R	A	P	T		E	R	N		A	J	A	R
E	V	E	R		C	O	O		S	U	R	A
N	O	N	E		H	A	R	M	O	N	I	C
A	N	T	E		O	S	■	E	R	O	D	E
		A	S	P	■	T	H	E				
R	A	G	■	E	L	S	E	■	A	C	R	E
E	L	O	I	S	E	■	A	U	T	H	O	R
P	E	N	D	■	E	A	T	S	■	I	T	S
				E	R	R	■	E	L	L		
A	T	O	L	L	■	I	S	■	E	D	D	Y
F	O	R	E	M	O	S	T		A	R	E	A
A	R	A	N	■	L	E	A	■	S	E	E	M
R	E	N	D	■	A	N	Y	■	E	N	D	S

DISASTROUS JAPANESE FIRE OUTBREAK

Altogether 820 houses were burned down and 5,000 rendered homeless by a fire at a town in Toyama district, 180 miles north-west of Tokyo, says Reuter from the Japanese capital.

SOVIET TO SUPPLY BELGIUM

An agreement by which Russia will supply Belgium in the next 12 months with very substantial quantities of wheat and fats, was reached in Moscow yesterday, Reuter learns in London.

This agreement, presumably reached with German approval, will go far towards meeting the food shortage in Belgium, which is suffering more than any other western country.

The Russo-Belgian agreement is held in British authoritative circles as justifying the official view that the blockade must be applied to enemy-occupied countries, firstly because the responsibility of feeding them is Germany's, and secondly, because British firmness evidently resulted in the Russo-Belgian agreement, which deprives Germany of supplies which she otherwise would have had.

It is understood that Belgium in return will supply Russia with engineering products.—Reuter.

TO BANISH WASTE IN THE ARMY

To seek out and eliminate waste in the use of food and stores in the hands of the troops will be the chief job of Major-General J. Buckley, D.S.O.

His appointment by the War Office as a Controller-General of Economy under the Quartermaster-General of the Forces has been announced.

Another of his tasks will be to investigate the possibility of abandoning the high standard of material which has made British products world-famous in favour of less costly materials without sacrificing efficiency.

Major-General Buckley's reputation as an efficiency expert is international.

BIG FRENCH HOTEL FIRE

A fire destroyed the Grand Hotel Britannia at Carnac Plage, near Lorient, the official German news agency stated quoting a message from Paris.—Reuter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE

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DISCORD IN JAPAN GROWS AS

ARMY DRAGS NATION NEAR TO WAR

(This is the second of six uncensored articles appearing in the "Manila Bulletin" on the Pacific "war of nerves" as seen from within Japan by an American observer).

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, Japan has presented a facade of solidarity before the world to hide a bitter and almost continuous internal division.

The cleavage between the "military mind" and the "international mind" is even sharper to-day as the islands stand on the edge of a decision that may mean erasure of the Japanese empire.

Despite the expressions of infinite loyalty and patriotism which pour endlessly out of Tokyo, domestic discord is one of the major reasons why army extremists have staked out a claim on the rich areas of south-eastern Asia and the South Seas.

The division has become greater as the army drags the nation closer to war with the United States—a war which so-called conservative elements in the islands believe would reduce Japan to beggary.

But, paradoxical as it may seem, if such a war occurs Japan probably would become completely united for the first time since the dictators of the Shogunate.

The "emergency period" within Japan began in 1931 when Kwangtung and Korean division officers precipitated the Manchurian incident without troubling to notify Tokyo beforehand. This was the "big putsch" by the "younger officers" to give the army political mastery of Japan through imperialism.

The campaign continued through subsequent clashes in China, leading to the outbreak of the China affair in July 1937. The army rode high during the first two years of that war.

Historic Urge

Now, these officers are looking toward further conquests, despite the risks involved in a South Seas campaign and in disregard of continuing China warfare. There are a variety of political and economic factors impelling the "southward march," in addition to Japan's historic urge for empire.

Not the least of these is the army's desire to gloss over its failures in China and to maintain its domestic control by diverting public attention toward a new field: The navy would be forced to undertake the hazardous southern campaign. The navy also must assume responsibility for defending Japan proper, if Russia chooses to strike.

Success in new imperialism would indirectly benefit the army, which originated the drive "to obtain the raw materials which nature denied our islands." Failure is something the "military mind" never contemplates.

The situation, of course, has intensified the traditional rivalry between the army and the navy, which has existed since the Restoration, when officers of the two services were drawn from rival clans. Furthermore, the navy on the whole is more intelligent, more widely travelled and more alert to the tremendous risks involved in any push southward.

Navy Acts As Brake

The navy, so far, has applied a partial brake to the vigorous expansionist schemes of the more radical army officers, primarily because fleet leaders dread war with the United States.

In this, the navy has the active support of more conservative army officers in Tokyo, a substantial section of powerful industrial figures, and more cautious bureaucrats, including Premier Prince Funimaro Konoye. Surprisingly enough, the latter group is often supported by the brilliant but ambitious and unpredictable foreign minister—Yosuke Matsuoka.

This does not mean that all naval officers advocate restraint. The fleet originated the "southward scheme" many years ago, sensing that the South Seas presented a richer field than Manchuria, where the army was interested. The 1931 coup turned Japan northward and delayed the southern plan until the present, when it is impracticable although possibly essential.

Eye On U.S.

The fleet's reluctance to act now is based on a sincere regard for the American navy's prowess, plus the brief that Russia would take advantage of the situation to attack the islands, which the navy is pledged to defend.

Navy discipline is excellent. So the entire service conforms when the Tokyo staff officers agree on a policy, regardless of whatever arguments may have been provoked previously while plans were under discussion. At present, the navy seems decided upon assistance to the army in consolidating positions in French Indo-China and in moving cautiously against Great Britain, through Thailand and by a constant threat against Hong Kong. That they want to avoid immediate friction with the United States is underlined by the fact that the bulk of the fleet's striking power is now in Japanese waters, off Kyushu island, for "manoeuvres."

The army comes from a different strain. Its officers for the most part are educated in Japan and Germany, whereas the navy travels to Britain and the United States. Army officers accept Prussianism as the modern equivalent of the vastly overrated code of the old samurai, or two-sword feudal mercenaries.

Discipline in the Japanese army is shockingly bad. Tokyo has comparatively little control over staff headquarters in Nanking and Hsinking, which in turn can hold field officers in check only in proportion to the personal prestige of the respective commanders in chief. Moreover, there is no unity between the north and south China armies, or between those units and the crack Kwangtung army in Manchukuo.

Nomonhan Mess

This situation is exemplified by a multitude of examples, including of course the Manchurian incident. More recently was the mess precipitated by the Kwangtung army when it led itself into a disastrous defeat at Nomonhan in 1939, against Tokyo orders. The "peaceful" entry in Indo-China last year cost hundreds of lives because field officers refused at first to obey the orders of General Nishihara, Tokyo's negotiator at Hanoi.

This "dual government" has been a major impediment to improvement of American-Japanese relations. Army units or individual officers act independently in China, and Tokyo must back them up or "lose face."

The laughably impotent foreign office and even the Tokyo war ministry are powerless to assure Washington that there will be any improvement in the China situation. The United States must, of course, deal with Tokyo. But, while platitudes are mouthed during diplomatic negotiations, irresponsible officers contravene them by their actions in the field.

The most flagrant example of this occurred early in 1940 when America and Japan had made the greatest strides toward improved relations since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war precipitated in hundreds of "cases" upon which Washington demanded settlement. Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, now ambassador to Washington, was foreign minister. He represented the pro-American faction which still believes that friendship with the United States is essential for Japan's continued international life.

Nomura Mission

As first proof of his good intention, Admiral Nomura promised reopening of the Yangtze river, as far as Hankow. To Americans it was only a minor concession, but to the Japanese it was a great retrogressive step to demonstrate the islands' sincere desire for friendship.

Although there was considerable optimism in Tokyo after this promise, relations were not improved and the cabinet fell on its inability to solve American issues. Diplomats and Admiral Nomura knew the river would never be reopened, even as a gesture. The reason: Army officers were making too much money by running their transports as monopolistic cargo boats.

Army extremists are not only greedy and ambitious but they are notoriously bigoted. Throughout Japan's modern history they have consistently underrated their enemies—the record shows that the Russo-Japanese war might have been lost if President Roosevelt had not intervened. The army underestimated China and completely misjudged the Soviet at Nomonhan. Incidentally, in that highly important battle German mechanised units were tried out for the first time—on the Russians' side.

Now the army has underestimated the United States; both her power and, until lately, her willingness to fight. Egged on by their Nazi friends, the extremists are willing to risk war in furtherance of their own schemes and to protect their own position. Backing them are likeminded businessmen; the carpetbaggers who have made money in Manchukuo through monopolistic enterprises and who are trying to do the same in north China. From the people they draw the easily swayed superpatriots.

Swept On Tide

In opposition is the present government, an admitted minority which is held in power by the influence of Prince Konoye's position as a member of one of Japan's great families. An influential industrial group supports the government while fighting the army's schemes for planned economy as a major step toward totalitarian control. These are the pro-American businessmen who realise that profits would be most stable through friendship with China and who also realise Japan's economic ties with the United States.

The government itself is being swept along by the constant encroachments of the Nazi-minded military men.

He has opposed the creation of a single party based on the Nazi system, but the drive lately has been renewed. His ministers met defeat in an attempt to absolutely control industry, but now a campaign is under way which will accomplish virtually the same purpose.

Foreign Minister Matsuoka himself termed this domestic fight as a conflict between imperialists and the elements which do not want "conquest, exploitation and oppression." He added, "upon its outcome depends the fate of the Japanese empire."

Conservatives see only one solution to this situation — an outright army dictatorship. This alone, they say, would enable Tokyo to control its men in the field, because then an acknowledged army government would be forced to assume responsibility for mistakes abroad. These mistakes now are attributed not to the army, but to the helpless civilians behind it.

The army, however, has refused until now to be drawn into such a position. Obviously, the domestic battle will include in the future an intensified attempt to force them into the forefront. Shrewd politics may accomplish the trick, but even the conservatives are not optimistic.

EVEN IN JAPAN, THE PEOPLE HOLD THE FINAL KEY TO THE SITUATION. THEY ARE STIRRING NOW.

BISHOP IS DARTS "CHAMP"

The Bishop of Woolwich (Dr. Lang), who had not thrown a dart for ten years, recently visited a public shelter and defeated the shelter's champion.

The Bishop told civil defence workers of his success at a special service.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

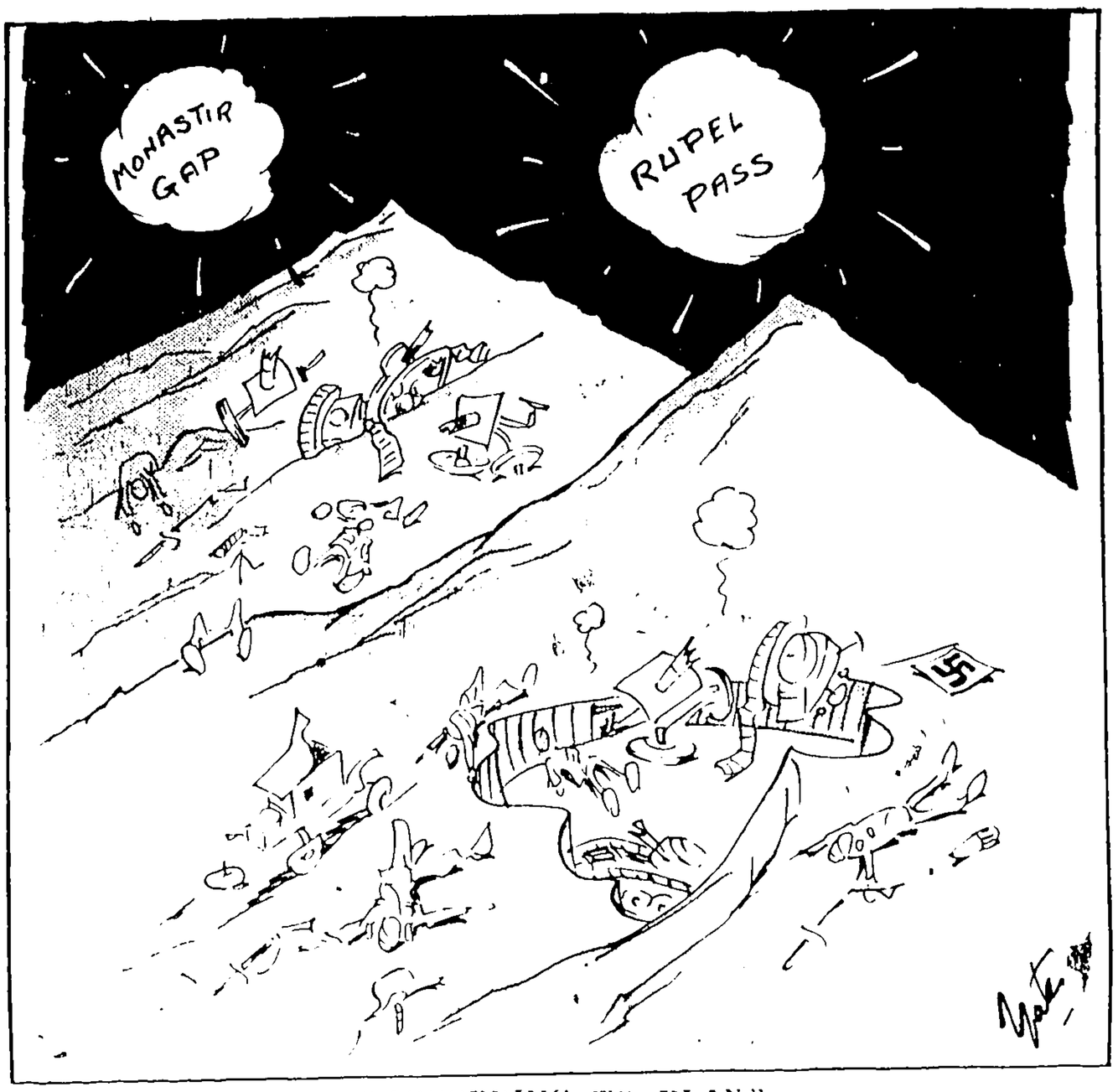
THE LIBYAN CAMPAIGN

Reports from Libya are somewhat confused, largely because of German propaganda put out and twisted in order to obscure the actual facts and to create uncertainty in people's minds. The Germans claim to have cut off the British in Tobruk, while some agencies have gone so far as to circulate a stupid report that Tobruk was encircled. From a prestige point of view, the German neck-or-nothing dash is exceedingly annoying but there is no reason to doubt the ability of the British and Imperial Forces to cope with the situation. The latest Cairo reports show that the position now is stabilised and that an attempt by the Germans to tackle the British forces on their chosen ground would be welcomed.

From a military point of view, Germany's dash across Libya is more spectacular than valuable. The German forces have been unopposed and the desert, "being", as one writer expresses it, "like the ocean," it makes little or no difference where battles take place. Hitler undertook this forceful diversion because he cannot afford a further setback in any form whether diplomatic or military. He must at all costs continue to inject the doctrine of invincibility into the minds of his subjects, and he was wily enough to realise that the comparatively weak position of the British forces in Libya due to the withdrawal of large forces for Greece, gave him an opportunity to stage a "show."

The Germans at home need something of a reassuring nature. They are reported to be seriously disquieted by the outbreak of war in the Balkans, the heavy bombing of Berlin, and Russia's disapproval of Hitler's diplomacy, and were undoubtedly in urgent need of some stimulation by successful enterprise. Obviously, too, the revival of the war in Libya obliges General Wavell to maintain forces strong enough to defend the Egyptian frontier, thus hindering the dispatch of reinforcements to Greece.

The most deadly weapon that Hitler has exploited hitherto, however, is the spreading rumours, to create doubt and uncertainty. In this instance unless checked, the mendacious reports on the acknowledged advance made by the Germans might easily be construed as a heavy defeat for the British. This is far from the case. The utmost confidence is placed in General Wavell's management of affairs. The fall of Massawa has turned the Red Sea into a supply channel, sufficiently secure for President Roosevelt to announce that American vessels can carry war materials as far as Ismailia. The convoy position in that important area has, in consequence, been relieved, all of which not only shows that the Italian position in East Africa is irretrievably lost, but that, in spite of anything Hitler can now do, supplies can pass up the Red Sea to reinforce the British position in Greece and elsewhere.



"ACCORDING TO PLAN"

Trail Of The Raiders

By Hanson W. Baldwin

German surface and U-boat raiders are blazing a trail of battered ships and floating wreckage across the trouble-ridden North Atlantic ocean.

Recently cartooned by artists in Britain and America as "Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, that German battleship team operating to cut in the Atlantic sea lanes," these raiders are only the most recent menace to the safety of the submarine.

The "Spring Blitz" at sea has started, and at sea as in the air the Germans are beginning to throw their full strength into the attempt: a desperate and bitter and definitive attempt to crush Britain this year.

The sea war is no longer merely a question of U-boats and scattered surface raiders; Adolf Hitler is beginning to use the bulk of his navy as he did in Norway to achieve his objective, and if he achieves it at the end Britain's shipping interests across the Atlantic, he will not be slow to pay the price even at that price he could be certain of "victory or defeat."

Warships Are Added

To about 150 U-boat operating mainly from French ports (about one-third of hers at sea at any one time), to perhaps three to a dozen armed merchant raiders operating in widely separated parts of the world, to a menace of mines and the threat of long range bombers Germany has now added surface men-of-war. These ships, like the submarine, are believed to be based mainly on French ports, but can find refuge and fuel and supplies in any one of more than fifty ports scattered along the coast of Western Europe.

Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, sister ships, are modern 26,000-ton vessels with 11-inch main batteries, and although they have high speed, perhaps 29 knots, they cannot properly be called battle cruisers, since they are very heavily protected by armour. They are more than a match for any ship in the British Navy except a capital ship and they have higher speed than any British battleship, excepting the new ships of the King George V class. Only the three British battle cruisers, Hood, Repulse and Renown, have a clear "edge" on the Scharnhorst class in both speed and gun power.

Protection Is Complicated

With such ships operating against supply routes the British problem of protecting convoys has been enormously complicated. The British have been forced in recent weeks to utilise battleships to escort their principal convoys.

In addition to the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau the Germans are using cruisers and probably some destroyers against British trans-Atlantic routes and the raiders have probably cruised to within a few hundred miles of Newfoundland.

Despite losses in the Norwegian campaign the German Navy has at least seven cruisers—and probably several more—available for service, and it is likely that three or four of these and twenty or more of Germany's estimated forty-seven destroyers are operating in the Atlantic.

New Ships Reported

In addition to the ships Germany probably has two 56-inch gunned battleships of the Bismarck class and two powerful aircraft carriers almost ready to get in service. These new ships will certainly be heard from later in the war, and though the two Bismarcks may be kept in the North Sea area to "contain" certain units of the British Fleet, one or both of the carriers might be unleashed on the routes of trade.

This kind of assault, dangerous enough even to the date of its present progress, has implications of peril for Britain if it is developed to the fullest possible extent. It is an assault that cannot be parried except by ships and more ships for convoy protection duty. It is an assault that cannot be prevented, common assumption to the contrary, by the British blockade.

Blockade Job Is Difficult

For no navy, no matter how powerful, can maintain an air-tight blockade. The British Navy's job to day is incomparably greater and more difficult than in the World War; never before, at least in the days of steam and the 'plane, has it had to blockade a continent.

The German surface men-of-war possess the same advantage as the German air force—numerous and widely scattered bases. From Narvik to Bordeaux German ships can pop in and out of ports like a fox from a hollow log. The British Navy even aided by aerial reconnaissance, simply cannot cover all these ports effectively, and periodic bombing of those in range are at best a detriment, not a cure.

The sea must be combed for the raiders, but more important, all convoys, not only a special few, must be heavily protected by battleships, by cruisers, by destroyers, escort vessels and 'planes to guard against the triple threat of assault from beneath, from above and from on the surface.

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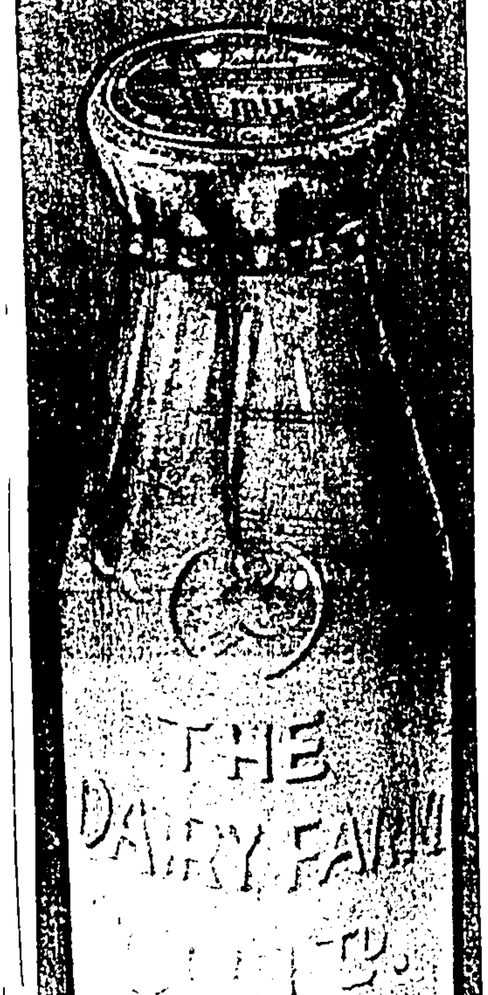

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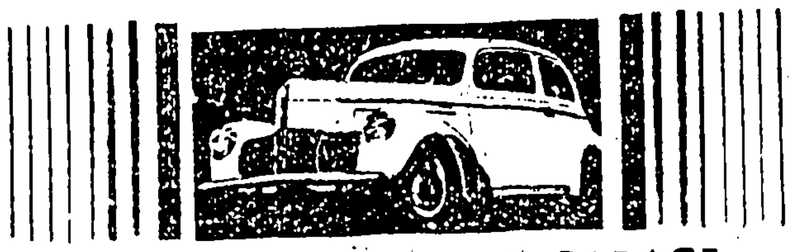

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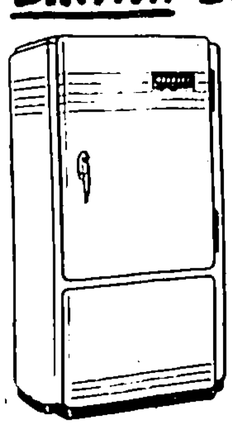

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GERMAN ARMY HELD IN SOUTH SERBIA BY R.A.F. EXPLOIT

THE GERMAN ARMY IS HELD IN THE CENTRE OF SOUTHERN SERBIA AS A RESULT OF THE SUCCESSFUL BOMBING BY THE R.A.F. OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE VARDAR RIVER AT VERLES.

The story of how hell-diving British bombers carried out this hazardous task shows that the exploit ranks with other epic attacks on strategic points in this war such as that on the bridge at Maestricht. In one respect it differs from similar feats of heroism as all the British aircraft returned safely.

The British pilots knew, when they took off for this night raid, that the bridge at Verles was a communications key in southern Serbia and would be strongly defended.

Searchlights stabbed the sky and German A.A. batteries hurled explosives into the sky when the British 'planes arrived over the target, but not one attacking bomber was even scratched.

One pilot ran the gauntlet four times before he was satisfied that his bombs could be released with the greatest effect.

Havoc Among Tanks

His stick of bombs struck the bridge and demolished it and a second fell on the adjacent railway line, while incendiary bombs set fire to surrounding buildings.

The other British aircraft, when they arrived found the bridge already cut and promptly bombed Nazi armoured vehicles which had been brought to a standstill. — Reuter.

GOVT. TO RETAIL RICE

To improve the local rice situation and at the same time to curb the activities of unscrupulous rice dealers, Government has imported a large quantity of rice which will be made available directly to the general public within a day or two.

The price of Government rice has been fixed at $14.23 (wholesale) and $14.80 (retail) per picul, this being lower than the standard price fixed by the Controller of Food.

The rice which Government has imported is of the best quality and any member of the public wishing to purchase a few bags, may do so by applying to the offices of the Food Controller in the Exchange Building where delivery orders will be issued.

SHANGHAI DOLLAR PROBLEM

Despite the reported improvement in the political atmosphere in Shanghai following the proposed reorganisation of the S.M.C., banking circles in London do not expect any improvement in the Shanghai dollar in the near future.

Notwithstanding official reassurances the feeling persists in London that it would be foolish for the Chinese Stabilisation Fund to lend active support to the Shanghai dollar until the political and military situation is clarified.—Reuter.

BLAKE IS TO RISK BLITZ

Bridgwater city fathers have said "No" to a proposal to remove the statue commemorating the birthplace of Admiral Blake to a place of safety.

"I cannot imagine that Blake, were he able to speak, would like his statue put in a place of security," said Alderman Deacon.

HUSTLE

The town of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, U.S., is convinced — at last—that the motor-car has come to stay. The citizens are removing the old-fashioned hitching posts to which they tied their horses and giving them to the local council for use as boundary posts.

TITLED BEAUTY IS HELD

Police searched the London flat of the beautiful young wife of the heir to the Earl of Effingham, Lady Howard of Effingham, who has been detained by order of the Home Secretary under Defence Regulation 18B.

At the time inquiries were being made by the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, Lady Howard was at her country house at Byfleet, Surrey.

Her London home is in Park West, a block of modern flats near Marble Arch, W. Police were there until a late hour at night, and refused to admit callers.

When a reporter spoke to the Earl of Effingham about his daughter-in-laws' detention the Earl said: "It is news to me." Asked if he would be getting into touch with his son, he said: "I shall do nothing about the matter.

"Whether she has any political interests or not I do not know. I know little about her. It is really no affair of mine."

As Miss Maria Malvin Gertler, Hungarian-born daughter of a Budapest business man, Lady Howard met her husband, Lord Howard of Effingham, at a party in 1938.

A few months later — in October, 1938 — they were married at Marylebone Register Office. The bride was then twenty-six and the groom thirty-two.

R.A.F. GIVES NO RESPITE

AN R.A.F. Middle East communique records widespread successful operations in the Mediterranean theatres of war. It states: "Cyrenaica — considerable damage and confusion was caused to enemy troops and motor transport concentrations in the El Adem — Tobruk — Bardia area by constant air action on the part of aircraft of the R.A.F. and R.A.A.F.

The enemy was given little respite. Our bombers raided throughout the day while fighters on patrol took every opportunity of carrying out machine-gun attacks.

Four Junkers 52's were intercepted over Capuzzo by Australian fighters. One was shot down immediately whereupon the remainder attempted hurried landings and crashed in doing so. They were then destroyed on the ground by machine-gun fire.

During night of April 14/15 aerodromes at Derna, Monastir and El Adem were raided, buildings, tents and hangars being destroyed. A large twinengined enemy aircraft at Monastir was wrecked by machine-gun fire and another at Derna destroyed.

The Balkans—a highly successful attack was made on shipping in Valona harbour by aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm on the night of April 14/15. A merchant ship of 6,000 tons and an ammunition ship of 7,000 tons were blown up.

Yannina Raid

Enemy aircraft attempted dive bombing attacks on Piraeus harbour. Slight damage was caused to R.A.F. property.

Our fighters intercepted and five Junkers 88's were shot down. Others were severely damaged and are unlikely to have returned safely to base.

The enemy also raided aerodromes at Yannina, where some damage was caused.

Malta—enemy aircraft raided Malta on the night of April 14/15. The only damage was to a mental home, where one patient was was killed and nine injured.

Nothing of outstanding importance to report from other fronts.

From all the above operations all our aircraft returned safely with the exception of two bombers.—British Wireless.

5 BRITISH BLITZED CITIES ARE RISING AGAIN

(By A Special Correspondent)

WHILE THE SMOKE was still rising from the bomb-blasted wreckage of Coventry, the Germans proudly introduced a new word into the English language.

Their new word was "Coventrated" — to bomb out of existence. Very pleased with it, they proceeded to apply the word to other places — to Southampton and Birmingham, Sheffield and Bristol.

The Germans would be less pleased to-day if they could see these cities which they sought to put out of the war. The mark of the beast is still stamped heavily upon them, but the wheels are turning again, the smoke to-day is coming from factory chimneys.

And their citizens, working with might and main, are doing more than patch and repair. They are planning to build afresh new and finer buildings to rise on the site which the Luftwaffe cleared.

Here is their story, one of the most inspiring of the war:

Southampton

When the City Fathers surveyed the cruel damage they saw more than wreckage. They saw a still more gracious Southampton which could rise from the ruins.

Already new building lines for the town's main thoroughfares have been fixed. When the new Southampton is born, those streets will have roadways 80ft. wide.

Large numbers of properties were damaged or destroyed creating immediate, pressing needs among those who suffered in the raids. The Council have approved the principle of building inexpensive temporary premises on central sites, even if necessary in the famous parks, for letting to bombed-out traders and business men.

Sheffield

When the Nazis struck at Sheffield, they damaged a great many houses.

But the city buckled down to the big job and contractors from Doncaster, Rotherham, Chesterfield and Barnsley have been repairing the remainder at high speed.

And far-reaching plans for rebuilding the city are being prepared.

Birmingham

Most of the homeless have found accommodation with friends, or have been evacuated.

A hundred hostels are being opened to house others till new homes are found for them.

Bristol

A complete survey of the city is being made. From it will be prepared a "rough and imaginative" plan of the central area, showing possibilities for post-war replanning.

But individuals and firms are busy on their own account. Shopkeepers have complete plans for rebuilding on bombed sites. Some hope soon to reopen in temporary huts.

Coventry

Coventry, veteran of blitzed provincial cities, is living a new existence, instead of being blotted out of existence, as the Nazis thought.

Many people have moved elsewhere since that devastating night, but those that remain find their city daily nearer to normal.

And while the wheels of industry spin faster, local officials are busy on a redevelopment scheme. Soon their preliminary report will be ready; the first brick in the Coventry of tomorrow will have been laid.

MR. HEINZ IS DEAD

Mr. Howard Heinz, the canned food "king" has died at Pittsburg, U.S., aged sixty-three. In 1900 he entered the food manufacturing business established by his father. Appointed sales manager in 1905, he became president of the H. J. Heinz Company in 1919.—Reuter.

JAPAN'S FLYING SUBMARINES?

Japanese military and naval activities in South China have increased following the conclusion of the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact, according to a report appearing in a leading Chinese paper in Shanghai.

The report says the whole of the Japanese forces in South China are now being reorganised for a possible southward penetration and that more than 20 Japanese submarines have appeared in South China waters and have extended their activities to the Bay of Bengal!

It is further stated that Japanese troops in Hainan, the island off the coast of French Indo-China, have been impressing able-bodied Chinese workers to form a South China Sea transport corps. —Reuter.

JUNK FIRE IN JOSS HOUSE BAY

EARLY THIS MORNING A LARGE JUNK, CONTAINING KEROSENE, WAS STILL SMOULDERING IN JOSS HOUSE BAY AS A RESULT OF AN EXPLOSION WHICH OCCURRED ON THE JUNK AT 11.30 P.M. LAST NIGHT.

Immediately following the explosion, the junk caught fire, but the crew managed to escape to a nearby junk.

The No. 1 fire float was despatched to the scene and had the outbreak under control shortly after midnight.

The junk, though not totally destroyed, is submerged in Joss House Bay.

COMPULSORY SERVICE IN MALTA

Under Malta's compulsory service scheme, a second age group — 22's and 23's — will be called up on Monday.—Reuter.

BATTLED AS HUNS BOMBED

Many people have left Portsmouth to find new homes elsewhere.

They have lived through previous raids, and it has taken the full concentration of Nazi hate to force them away. Many lost their homes in the night raid and others have been evacuated from areas which bombs have made dangerous.

Once again the German technique was the same — flares and showers of incendiaries followed by tons of high explosive bombs.

This time, though, our night patrols went up to meet the raiders. Grim battles were fought in the light of the moon.

Some raiders were driven away. At least one bomber was brought down by our fighters and another by A.A. fire. But the Huns returned again and again. With a short lull, the bombing lasted for several hours.

Four cinemas and theatres were hit, but the casualties were miraculously small, most of the audience having taken shelter.

Stores In Ruins

Shops and stores known to thousands of visitors and holiday-makers are in ruins.

One high explosive bomb damaged a hospital receiving casualties and incendiaries fell on the roof. They were tackled by the staff and others, and in the midst of the blitz the patients were safely evacuated outside the city.

The next day many people were still being rescued from the ruins.

An A.F.S. section was wiped out. A Scout troop meeting ended in death for most of these boys.

The Lord Mayor, Mr. D. L. Daley, said: "Our proud city has been hit and hit hard by the enemy.

"But we are as determined as ever, to stand side by side with other cities which have felt the blast."

ARMY OF PILOTS LAND IN BRITAIN

A VAST CONTINGENT of trained airmen have landed at a Scottish port — men who left Britain for Canada under the Empire air training scheme and now home again, having gained their wings.

After a brief "polishing up" in Britain they will be posted to R.A.F. service stations to take their part in the air war against the Huns.

They are forerunners of thousands of pilots who will join the R.A.F. at regular intervals from the Canadian training schools.

The scheme, in full blast now, is training men from every corner of the Empire.

In addition to the British pilots, the contingent included Canadian and Australian Forces.

Most of their instruction was given by Canadian bush pilots who, before the war, were employed flying machinery and supplies to remote parts of north-west Canada and Alaska.

The British, mainly sergeant pilots, said that although they had "a royal time" in Canada they were glad to be home.

The party included at least five veterans of the last war. One of the most interesting among them is a Londoner who has spent twenty years in Ottawa. He served during the last war in the Marines, the Navy and the French Army, seeing service in France and Belgium.

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PUBLIC AUCTIONS

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Auctioneers
Hong Kong, 16th April, 1941.

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BRIDGE NOTES

A FINE POINT
By The Four Aces

North had to make a very close choice in the bidding of to-day's hand:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable

	♠ K Q J 6 ♡ 7 6 3 2 ◇ 10 8 5 ♣ 10 8	
♠ 9 7 4 2 ♡ A K Q 8 4 ◇ 6 2 ♣ 7 6	N W E S	♠ A 8 5 ♡ J 10 9 5 ◇ A 7 3 ♣ 5 4 2
	♠ 10 3 ♡ — ◇ K Q J 9 4 ♣ A K Q J 9 3	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♡	Pass	Pass
3◇	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

North knew that South's bid of three diamonds indicated a five-card suit. And South had to hold six clubs, since he had bid clubs before showing the diamonds. So North could show a preference for either suit and still be sure of having eight trumps in the combined hands. But North chose clubs because he knew that South would be forced to ruff hearts as often as he gave the opponents the lead; and a six-card trump suit would survive the "punches" better than a five-card trump suit.

HIGH CARD VALUES OF THE FOUR-ACES SYSTEM
ACE ... 3
KING ... 2
QUEEN 1
JACK ... ½

North was quite right, of course, for South made his contract of five clubs but could not have made five diamonds! West led a heart, and South ruffed and drew three rounds of trumps. He then led the diamonds, knocking out East's Ace. A heart return brought South down to one trump, but that was enough to allow the setting up of a spade trick.

Now examine the play at five diamonds. The opening lead reduces South to four trumps. South must knock out the diamond Ace, and then another heart lead reduces his trumps to the same number as East's. It takes all of South's trumps, therefore, to clear the suit so that he can cash the clubs. And then South never succeeds in setting up a spade, since East's last two cards are the spade Ace and a good heart.

* * *

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents, you held:

♠ 6
♡ A J 9 4
◇ K Q 8 3
♣ Q 10 7 5

The bidding:

Jacoby	Maier	You	Schenken
1♠	2♣	(?)	

ANSWER: Double. Your hand should take about two club tricks, and about two or three tricks in hearts and diamonds. If your partner has fair defensive strength, you should do well against two clubs, even without being able to make a game of your own.

Score 100% for double, 30% for two diamonds or two hearts, 20% for two no-trump.

Question No. 692

To-day you hold the same hand, but the bidding is:

Jacoby	Maier	You	Schenken
1♡	2♣	(?)	

What do you bid? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

JAPANESE DROP BOMB ON OWN FIELD

FIVE JAPANESE MILITARY AIRMEN WERE BLOWN TO BITS AND TWO BOMBERS WERE DESTROYED IN AN ACCIDENT AT THE JAPANESE-OCCUPIED HANOI AIR FIELD, AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN REPORTED IN SAIGON.

The accident occurred when a third Japanese bomber, departing for a bombing expedition to southwest China, flew over the Hanoi field and unintentionally dropped a demolition bomb in the middle of the sleeping camp.

LOOT GANGS RAID BLITZ TOWNS

ORGANISED LOOTING GANGS have appeared in heavily bombed towns, and provincial police forces have been warned to be on their guard against them.

The looters' method is to pose as rescue workers and to load furniture and other goods into the lorries and pantechnicons with which they are equipped.

Most of the gangs are believed to have their headquarters in London, but the problem is made more difficult for local forces because large numbers of gangsters have "evacuated" themselves from the London underworld and have re-formed in the larger provincial centres.

Some have passed themselves off as demolition or repair workers, and others have used women and child accomplices.

In Coventry a gang who came by road from London were loading furniture on to a lorry from a warehouse when they were disturbed. It was after experiences in this city that other towns were warned.

Child Looters

A 16-years-old London boy who was sent to an approved school for looting in Coventry told a detective that he came to the city in a stolen car with a man whom he met in an air-raid shelter.

They took £64 worth of property from a shop and disposed of it in London.

A gang of six boys, three other boys, and a girl were dealt with by the same court for looting.

Sheffield escaped the gangs because it was ready for them.

"We were forewarned," the chief constable, Major F. S. James, said, "and as a result we kept clear of any organised looting. We made it almost impossible for any unauthorised person to get into the wrecked areas."

The C.I.D. chief of a northern police force said: "We have been warned that these gangs do it on a big scale.

In Daylight

"They come along with a pantechnicon and load up in daylight. They have accomplices with local knowledge.

"The public can help, but that is a delicate question. A police officer can detain anyone who is acting suspiciously, but a member of the public must catch people in the act of committing a felony before he tries to detain them.

"If he makes a mistake he may find himself being sued for damages."

CARROTS ARE FILLING

For thousands of Belgian children the first morning exercise at school these days is to eat a raw carrot.

To children old enough to understand, the teacher explains that carrots contain essential vitamins. Younger children merely know that here is a little extra food, welcome after a skimpy breakfast. Carrot distribution was begun with the cooperation of German authorities.

TRAIL WOMAN'S LIFE IN POISON MYSTERY

By A Special Correspondent

Detectives investigating the mysterious death of forty-seven-year-old Miss Elizabeth Byford, whose body was exhumed at Plymouth, are trailing her movements right back to the village in which she was born.

Bit by bit they are putting together the jig-saw of her life and associations before she was rushed from her home at the Cornish village of St. Ann's Chapel to a Plymouth hospital where she died a few days later. When her body was exhumed, it was stated that traces of arsenic had been found.

When the detectives began their inquiries at St. Ann's Chapel, they found that Miss Byford had been known there as Mrs. Fiske, a woman of independent means. They also discovered that she and a man known to the villagers as Mr. Fiske had rented for a few weeks The Cafe, a seven-roomed house with a small shop attached. The shop had been stocked, but never opened.

Her Native Village

Soon the investigations were taking the police to hotels and cottages in villages and towns in East Devon and Cornwall—among them Newton Poppleford, Sidmouth and Callington—where Miss Byford had stayed since 1938.

Eventually the trail led back to the Hertfordshire village of Newgate Street, where Miss Byford was born, and where her mother died a few years ago.

At Callington, which is near St. Ann's Chapel, are some disused arsenic mines. Samples of arsenic have been taken from the flue at the end of a refining chamber, and from other parts of the mine.

This type of arsenic, the coroner was told at the inquest, could have been responsible for Miss Byford's death.

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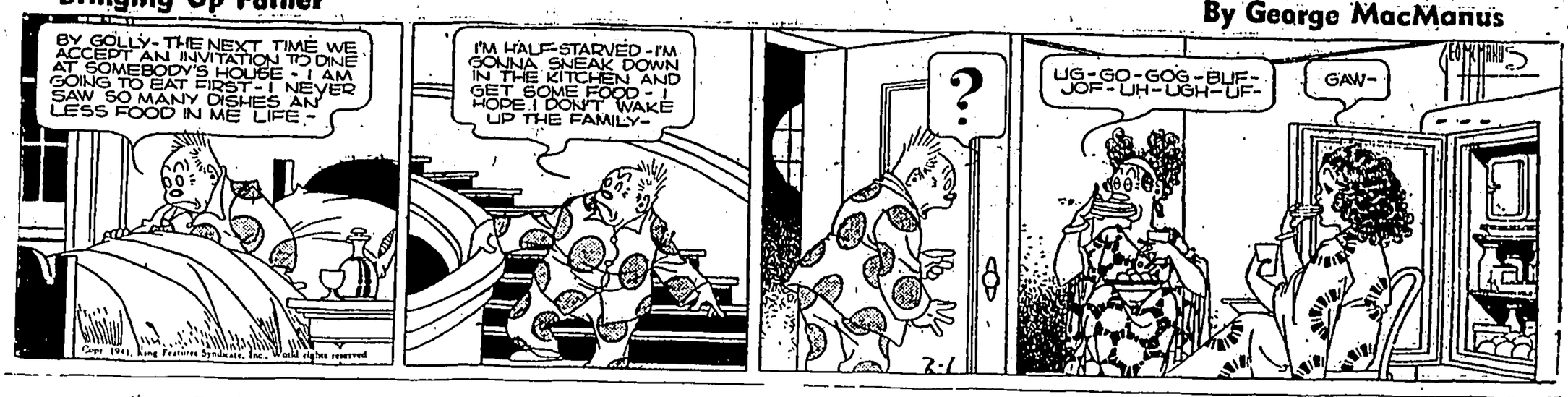


A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Want to Shake the Blues?

We all experience an occasional mood when life seems pretty uninteresting. We get the blues. We yearn for a change—or something to give your spirits fillip. And unfortunately, we find a change isn't possible at that time and there is nothing to do but go on living—but we can go on living with more beauty!

There is no better tonic for a woman's dejected spirits than a thorough grooming—an enhancing of her beauty.

A MASQUE FOR YOU: After a perfumed tubbing and a good skin scrubbing with a brush and soap, wrap yourself in a warm robe (so as not to catch cold), tie up your hair, and apply a velvety, peach-coloured cream masque. The one I'm thinking of used to be kept in reserve for special salon facials but any woman can now buy it in a little jar. While this wonder cream is making your face skin more beautiful, tackle your nails.

A BRAND NEW NAIL KIT which boasts a patriotic middy collar as a cover, contains all you need for home nail grooming. And when you buy it remember you have a choice of any of the latest polish shades Select one which flatters your hands and then your fingers will feel capable and smart in their new dress. After the manicure it's time for you to remove the masque and freshen your face with splashes of clear, cold water, or chilled skin tonic. Put on fresh undies (which I trust are scented with sachet), your favourite dress and slippers. Then sit yourself down before your mirror and get busy with your head! Tie a protecting cape around your shoulders and brush and comb your hair into as pretty a coiffure as your fingers can fashion. Then you are ready for the make-up session.

Regimental chic is the order of the day and young things are adoring this smart middy collar nail kit which offers choice of polish shades.

Speaking about make-up—it's time to buy new. I want to acquaint you with a jaunty little military cap of metallic blue which boasts four new make-up aids—a huge lipstick in a bright new shade, cream rouge, nail polish to harmonise, and an especially blended powder for pre-spring beauty. There they are—new, exciting, inspiring. After using them your face should look like spring feels — fresh, young, and romantic!

Now you are ready for a date. If you haven't one to look forward to, pick up the telephone, and in your sweetest, surest voice, get yourself one! Spring is only around the corner, and the men you know are getting an urge to snap out of their winter lethargies too.

"Unlovely Rubber Tire"

A so-called "rubber tire," my dears, indicates that you are lazy. You simply do not exercise enough, or the exercise you take is not the right sort to keep your midriff slim.

Diet helps some, in reducing this roll of excess flesh, but it truly does require specific exercise or professional massage taken regularly, to banish it effectively.

Now no woman likes that midriff bulge. A girdle or corset only makes it more pronounced for they push the flesh up as they flatten the hips and buttocks. No dress, or suit or bathing suit can be becoming or chic if you have a rubber tire. If you have, why not resolve right now to get rid of it?

What To Do

The primary step is to correct your posture. You simply must force yourself to stand up erectly with your abdomen pulled in, and your shoulders back but relaxed. Two things which will help you do this is to feel your shoulders broaden, as you push them back and down, and to feel yourself grow tall when you pull in your abdomen and tuck under your buttocks. Practice before a mirror until you get the right feel of correct, easy posture.

Perhaps too, you need a new supporting brassiere. Take time to be fitted well—there are so many good models now on the market that you are certain to find one that is comfortable, supporting and which makes your bustline more lovely.

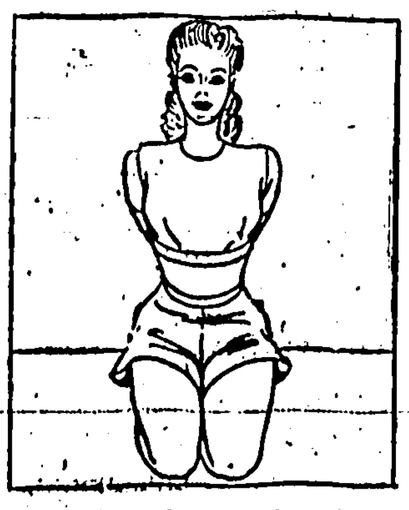
After you have mastered good posture and bought your undergarment, set aside at least twenty minutes each day to exercise. For five minutes practice this:

Lie flat on the floor, arms overhead in relaxed position. Forcefully pull your abdomen in and back toward your spine. Once you get those muscles to respond you will feel your abdomen move in and then slightly up. Relax. Pull in again. Relax. Then stand up in good posture and practice the same movement for five minutes more.

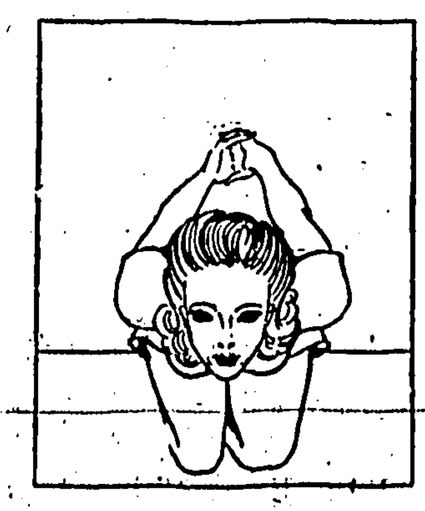
For the remaining ten minutes practice the exercise illustrated to-day. Kneel on floor, pull abdomen in and up, stretch arms out behind you and clasp hands.

Now keeping your head back where it belongs and leading with your chin, bend forward arching your back and letting your clasped hands move as high as possible. YOU MUST KEEP YOUR ABDOMEN IN! Return to original kneeling position and repeat.

This is splendid for firming the abdominal muscles, limbering the back and banishing that abhorred rubber tire!



Kneeling in good position, with abdomen in, arms behind.



Bend forward, chin leading, arms raised in back.

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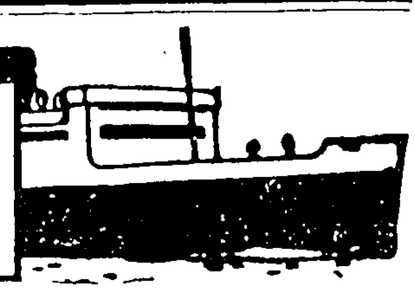

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RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 p.m.—Excerpts from Ivor Novello's Shows.
Careless Rapture—Selection Geraldo & his Orchestra.
Glamorous Night—The Girl I Knew Elisabeth Welch with Orch
The Dancing Years—I Can Give You the Starlight—Waltz. Waltz of My Heart Waltz. New Mayfair Dance Orchestra My Dearest Dear Mary Ellis & Ivor Novello My Life Belongs to You Dunstan Hart & Mary Ellis with Ivor Novello at the piano

1.00 p.m. Local Time Signal.

1.01 p.m.—New Mayfair Dance Orchestra.
Fox-Trot Music Hath Charms (from the film). Slow Fox-Trot Honey Coloured Moon. Quick-Step Nursie! Nursie!. Fox-Trot Somewhere at Sea. Tango Fox-Trot Where the Cafe Lights are Gleaming. Fox-Trot Angel of the Great White Way. Novelty Fox-Trot Speedboat Bill. The Haunted House. Waltz Lonely Sweetheart

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press and Announcements

1.45 p.m.—Compositions of Coleridge-Taylor.
"Otello" Suite—Dance from Otello; Children's Intermezzo; Funeral March. Willow Song. Military March New Symphony Orch Thou Hast Bewitched Me, Beloved. This is the Island of Gardens. Unmindful of the Roses Arthur Reckless (Baritone) & Orch Intermezzo New Light Symphony Orchestra Sons of the Sea Peter Dawson (Bass-Baritone) with Orch

2.15 p.m. Close down

5.45 p.m. Indian Programme

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations

6.32 p.m. Variety & Dance Music.
Fox-Trots Ten Little Men from Town Time at Sundown The Organ. The Dance Band & Me Vocal Moon over Miami Turner Layton with piano Waltz Love is All (from "It's a Date"). Fox-Trot They Call me a Dreamer Oscar Rabin & his Strict Tempo Dance Orchestra Comedienne 'Elsbeth Emery 'Epplewaite Gracie Fields Fox-Trot Shufflin' at the Hollywood Lionel Hampton & Orchestra Vocal & Piano—One Morning in May; You Oughta Be in Pictures Derickson & Brown

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Meet Uncle Sam".

7.30 p.m.—"Fats" Waller (Organ) and His Rhythm.
Fox-Trots Anita; I Used to Love You Deep River ..."Fats" Waller (Organ). Fox-Trots Something Tells Me, Serontch. Lonesome Road, Water Boy ..."Fats" Waller (Organ solo) Fox-Trots Patty Cake, Patty Cake; Good for Nothin' But Love

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Announcements.

8.02 p.m.—Violin Solos by Albert Sandler.
Pale Moon (Indian Love Song) (Logan); Allegro (Fiocco) Jack Byfield at the Piano. Estudiantina—Waltz (Waldteufel). Dolores—Waltz (Waldteufel)...Sydney Ffoulkes at the piano.

8.15 p.m.—Studio—Local Newsletter.

8.30 p.m.—Keith Falkner (Baritone) & New Mayfair Orchestra.
Jerome Kern Melodies—Intro: There is a Hill Beyond a Hill; Blue Eyes; Dancing Time; Look for the Silver Lining. She did not say Yes; Whose Baby Are You; Who; Moon Love; I've told ev'ry little Star; Wild Rose New Mayfair Orchestra. San Diego Betty (film "Mayfair Melody"); Without the Moon...Keith Falkner (Baritone). A Musical Comedy Switch ... New Mayfair Orchestra. A Song Doesn't Care (film "Mayfair Melody")....Keith Falkner (Baritone). Love Tales—Intro. Love, Here is my Heart; Speak to me of Love; A Bachelor Gay; I Love Thee; Frasquita Serenade; If Winter Comes...New Mayfair Orchestra.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

9.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Questions of the Hour".

9.28 p.m.—Compositions of Beethoven.
Sonata in E Flat Major, Op 81a (Les Adieux): Adagio—Allegro—Andante espressivo — Vivacissimamente.... Arthur Schnabel—Piano solo.
Adelaide, Op. 46....Jussi Bjorling (Tenor) with piano.
Romance in F Op. 50....Paul Kaul (violin solo with piano).

9.45 p.m.—News in French (on Short Wave only).

10.00 p.m.—London Relay—"To Talk of Many Things".

10.15 p.m.—Verdi's "Aida" Ballet Suite and Act III.
Ballet Suite....Boston Promenade Orchestra conducted by Arthur Fiedler.
Aida Act III—Characters and Soloists in order of appearance: Amneris, Pharoah's daughter....Maria Capuana (M-Soprano); Ramfis, High Priest....Trancredi Pasero (Bass); Aida....Arangi-Lombardi (Soprano); Amonasro, King of Ethiopa....Armando Borgioli (Baritone); Rhadames, a young warrior....Arnoldo Lindi (Tenor); with Orchestra.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.

PEER HITS AT CIVIL SERVICE

A FIERCE ATTACK on Civil Servants "ignorant of the swaying passions and interests which dominate ordinary humanity," was made in the House of Lords by Lord Perry, chairman of the Ford Company, who recently resigned the post of business adviser to the Ministry of Food.

"Are we compelled to muddle through to victory?" he asked.

"Ministers of the Crown," he added, "are served by a personnel which has been carefully selected for peacetime pursuits. It is only those having experience, as I have, of Government servants in other countries who can appreciate that the British permanent official is in a class by himself. He is never failing in courtesy and deportment.

"He believes that second thoughts are better than quick decision, and that to sleep on a matter is preferable to immediate action.

Lacks Thrill Of Hazard

"Given a young man on the threshold of life, whose ceiling of ambition is short hours, a little work, mediocre surroundings.

"Given a young man who is content to go through life waiting year by year for dead men's shoes to secure promotion, and whose goal is to reach sixty years when he can retire on half pay.

"That is the man who is attracted by the Civil Service.

"He buys nothing. He sells nothing. He pays for nothing.

"He never has anything at risk and therefore lacks that great champagne of life—the thrill of hazard.

"Peace-time methods of the Civil Service obviously cannot be expected to meet war-time conditions.

"Such a body must be at a serious disadvantage when it attempts to grapple with modern warfare.

"Low Pressure"

"He is not a mere cog in the machinery. He is the power. Without him nothing can move. He is the steam in the engine and the steam is of very low pressure and operates through many complications of valves, governors, gauges and other contraptions designed—deliberately designed—to afford the maximum of obstruction and delay."

Lord Perry referred to the "extraordinary rapidity with which Ministers have been changed since the outbreak of war," and added, "Why have the executive and administrative departments been immune? It is they who are charged with the duty of arming and equipping our fighting forces.

"When one finds a succession of ill-suited Ministers, it is permissible to ask whether it is the Minister who is to blame or the staff.

"I know of nothing worthwhile and worthy which they have done since the war began."

The Lord Chancellor, in reply, said they should study the position, but he was giving no Governmental assurance.

Lord Perry withdrew his motion for papers.

LEARNED TO LEAD BAND BY DIAGRAMS

TEDDY JOYCE, THE DANCE BAND LEADER, WHO COLLAPSED IN A GLASGOW HOTEL AFTER PERFORMING WITH HIS BAND, DIED IN A GLASGOW HOSPITAL LATER. IT IS STATED THAT HE WAS SUFFERING FROM SPINAL FEVER.

Joyce's real name was Edmund John Cuthbertson. He was a Canadian.

Describing how he became a dance band conductor, he once wrote: "When I was a kid I learned the fiddle seriously. Then I stiffened two fingers in a car crash and put an end to ideas of a concert career."

Eventually Joyce went to New York and developed eccentric dancing. He went to St. Louis at the age of twenty-two and was told he would have to conduct the band as well. He had no idea how to do it, but he managed it by drawing diagrams on the music.

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NAZI CONTROL FORCES ENORMOUS INFLATION UPON FRANCE

AN ANALYSIS of the latest official returns of the Bank of France, made by the newspaper "Frankfurter Zeitung," throws light on the progressive inflation in France and the reasons for this worsening of the economic situation.

On the side of assets – from March, 1940, when the figure for advances to the Government was 30 milliard francs, there was an increase to 46 milliards in June and to 146 milliards in December. Of the last sum occupation costs amounted to 72 milliards.

On the side of liabilities—note circulation rose over the same period from 156 milliards to 174 milliards in June and 218 milliards in December. In December there was also a debt to the Reichskreditkasse of 41 milliards.

Total monetary circulation, French notes, occupation mark notes and coins, rose in December to 288 milliards. (Gold assets throughout the period are given as constant at 85 milliards).

Since then, it is pointed out in London, the note circulation must have increased so that by mid-March the monetary circulation must have risen to 310 milliards.

Since advances in respect of occupation costs have risen to over 90 milliards, the conclusion to be drawn is that in 12 months to mid-March last monetary circulation rose by some 140 milliards of francs, i.e. by over 80 per cent.

Occupation Cost

About two-thirds of this inflation was due to German-levied costs of occupation and one third to Government expenditure and the failure normal revenue since the collapse of France.

For the second quarter of 1941 the Vichy Government's proposed ordinary budget has been reduced to 22 732 million francs and great play is made of the fact that this was scaled down by 1½ milliards.

The amount payable to the Germans for this quarter as cost of the occupation is 36,400 million francs.

Thus the budget for all France is only 250 millions a day compared with 400 millions a day as cost of the occupation.

German Tactics

Thus, assuming there are 1,000,000 German troops in France, Vichy has to pay out 400 Francs a day per German compared to the budgetary allowance of only six francs per day per French civilian. The sum of 400 francs is far in excess of actual cost, one reliable estimate being 125 francs.

Credit over and above without doubt goes to securing illegal German control of French industry at the cost of France.

British Wireless.

SKY ARMY OF ALL ACES

[BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT]

Men drawn from all branches of the Army make up Britain's parachute troops. The county regiments, the Tank Corps and the Pioneer Corps are all represented.

They received intensive preparation for the job. During the first months they did not go up in a 'plane—they were given lecture after lecture on every detail of the required strategy.

Then came the physical training. Week after week they marched in full kit. They practised swimming in uniform. They did rock-climbing.

At this stage many were weeded out because they did not come up to the necessary standard of endurance.

Only the very finest, mentally and physically, would do for this new Army.

There have been thousands of volunteers.

Special Badge

You will be able to recognise Britain's paratroops whenever you meet them.

They will be wearing a special badge on the arm. It shows a white parachute with blue wings similar to those of the R.A.F. on either side.

Last night I met the man who taught the paratroops who jumped in Italy. He made his first parachute jump him only six months ago.

But tall, slimly-built Squadron-Leader L. A. Strange, D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C., who began his flying in 1908, has always demanded action.

He soldiered during the last war as a major with the Dorsetshire Regiment. Later he was transferred to the R.F.C. became a wing-commander. Before the outbreak of the present war he was closely associated with Whitney Straight, the racing motorist and aeroplane enthusiast.

He took up his Service career again in this war as a pilot-officer, but, in the words of a colleague, "he got so fed up with the way things were moving that he went to the Air Ministry. They said, "Right, we'll give you a job.' And they did."

Squadron-Leader Strange took to his new job of training parachute troops with zest.

"There's nothing in parachuting," Squadron-Leader Strange told me.

"The parachute is opened automatically and the men leave the troop-carrying 'plane according to a set drill.

"The real job before parachute troops awaits them when they get on the ground."

LOCAL SHARES

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LAST DAY'S SALES

5 H.K. Banks @ $1345
35 Canton Ins. @ $222½
15 Union Ins. @ $430
50 Wharves @ $86
100 Trams @ $16¼
352 Lights Rts. @ 60 cts.
100 Ropes @ $7¼

RECALL TO JOB AT 91

Nearly all the old "stockingers" who worked the hand-looms are dead, but an Arnold, Nottingham, hosiery firm have been able to recall ninety-one-year-old Andrew Gosling to make a dozen pairs of socks for an American millionaire.

The order reached Nottingham for a customer in America, who sent a design of socks of a most intricate pattern which cannot be made on the modern power looms.

The only machine able to produce such a complicated design is the hand frame, which went out of use more than half a century ago. Now only a few are to be seen in museums.

Messrs. Allen Solly and Company, however, have a few left, which they regard as curiosities, and Gosling, an employee, who, in spite of his great age, is alert and has good eyesight, was asked to return to the factory.

He is also instructing a younger man so that if more orders come in the work will go on.

It is not economical to make such socks on the modern machines.

"I am delighted to be back at my old job," said Mr. Gosling.

"I have made footwear for many of the best-known crowned heads of Europe, for Indian rajahs and American millionaires.

GIANT 'PLANES FOR SINGAPORE

The famous American flier, Clyde Pangbourn, who was the first to fly the Pacific from Japan to the United States, and Bert Balchen, pilot of Admiral Byrd's South Pole expedition, formed part of the crew which flew a Consolidated PBY type giant bomber from the United States to the naval base at Cavite, Philippines.

This is revealed in a despatch from the Manila correspondent of Domei who adds a second similar 'plane has arrived at Cavite and is now being prepared for transfer to the British.

The correspondent says British pilots are on the way from Singapore to take over the 'planes and fly them to the Singapore base.—Reuter.

STOCK EXCHANGE VERY QUIET

The London Stock Exchange ruled very quiet yesterday with price movements narrowly irregular and operators inclined to mark time in view of the uncertain war news. Gilt-edged and home rails tended easier, but industrials mostly were well maintained and oils were steady apart from 2/6d fall in Anglo-Egyptian to 42/6. Foreign rates were easier, with declines recorded in Chinese, Japanese Brazilians and Egyptian bonds. Wall Street was very quiet. Reuter.

HEARTBURN

caused by too much acid.

Your stomach makes natural acid to digest your food. It is when there is *too much* acid that stomach trouble begins. Then you get "acid symptoms"—heartburn, flatulence, "sourness."

Heed the warning in time by taking that saving dose or two of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder and you need never become a chronic stomach sufferer.

Unlike violent antacids (which can so easily rob you of Nature's acid, causing new symptoms), Maclean Brand Stomach Powder regulates Nature's supply. It keeps right your "digestive balance."

Even if you happen to suffer from pain after meals, or from that unnatural hunger before meals, a course of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder will bring correction to your digestion. Thousands are taking it; doctors are prescribing it; many operations for serious cases of stomach ulcer have been avoided.

MACLEAN BRAND Stomach Powder has the signature "ALEX. C. MACLEAN" always on bottle and carton.

Maclean Brand Stomach Powder is never sold loose, but only in bottles. The tablets are available in bottles or flat tins.

If you have any difficulty in obtaining it from your local chemist or store write to:—Banker & Co., P. O. Box 755, Hong Kong.

2APB7

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Young love is just a rosy dream until old man finance sticks his nose in—then it begins to be one long nightmare.

"ONLY RED TAPE CAN BEAT US"

"Red tape" is the only thing that could ever make Britain wave the white flag, said Mr. Alfred Edwards, M.P. for East Middlesbrough, speaking at Billingham-on-Tees.

He urged that "red tape" should be cut out.

"This is our country's gravest hour," he said. "Don't let it be said we strangled ourselves with red tape.

"We shall survive and the world will judge us not by our gains, but by our sacrifices."

G R

IMMIGRATION OFFICE NOTICE

Shippers are hereby notified that, on account of this evening's black-out, there will be no examination of ship's passengers by this Office after 6 p.m. Examinations will be held as usual to-morrow.

R. A. D. FORREST,
Immigration Officer.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853

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Reserve Fund £5,000,000
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The Bank's Head Office in London undertakes Executor and Trustee business, and claims recovery of British Income Tax overpaid, on terms which may be ascertained at any of the Agencies and Branches.

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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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Issued and Fully Paid-up ... $20,000,000
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FOR THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
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Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 1st March, 1937.

THE BANK OF EAST ASIA, LTD.

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RUMJAHN COUSINS CARRIED TO 4 SETS; FIRST SEMI-FINAL

K. H. Ip Outstanding Player On Stand Court

Matches Veterans In All Phases

By "Adrem"

CURRENT OPINION was upset rather at Hong Kong Cricket Club yesterday when S. A. and H. D. Rumjahn, who have generally been considered to be in better form this season than they were last season, only managed to beat Ho Ka-lau and K. H. Ip by 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, in the first semi-final match in the Colony Tennis Championships.

The fact that the match lasted so long can be attributed to the magnificent display of young Ip. In this, his first year of Colony tournament play, he stood head and shoulders above the three other players—whose total experience of tournament tennis probably runs into something like 70 years.

This fact would not be so surprising in any place other than Hong Kong, but after watching these matches year after year with the same old players doing virtually as they liked to their youthful challengers, the advent this season of Ip and Choa does bring some hope for the future.

There is much in Ip's game that needs improving. He is very apt, through over-anxiety, to play shots that are obviously going out, and also to assume more of the play than he should, but time should eradicate these faults.

He played practically every shot in the book yesterday, his strokes carried more sting and his anticipation was good.

Ho had a bad match. His usually reliable, if not powerful, forehand drive would not work and his volley merely had the effect of keeping the ball in play, but he did the right thing and when the Rumjahns were being hard pressed, his lobbing had quite a lot to do with it. At best he served accurately although without much pace.

"H.D." Not Well?

I understand that H. D. Rumjahn was not feeling too well and this probably accounted for the fact that Sircar did most of the work in the first two sets. The latter, earlier, played as well as he has ever done, his fine recovery and smooth strokes bringing many points, but when the opposition, in the second set, resorted to lobbing his smash went to bits and he noticeably lost confidence thereafter.

H. D. played well in the later stages and was cool under all circumstances but his play lacked much of the fire of last year. How much he was affected by his indisposition remains to be seen.

The Play

The Rumjahns had little difficulty in the first set, which they won for the loss of three games after leading 3—0. In the second, when Ho and Ip started their lobbing tactics, they fell away somewhat and the Chinese pair led at 4—2 and had a good chance of taking the next game on Ho's service, when they led 30—15 and Ho was presented with an easy smash which he placed into the net. The Rumjahns reeled off the next four games for the set.

In the third set the Chinese, thanks to Ip's brilliance and Ho's lobbing, had little difficulty in winning at 6—2.

In the early stages of the fourth set it appeared possible that the scores would be levelled. Ho and Ip led 3—1 but the well-known Rumjahn fighting spirit then came to the fore and they wiped off the deficit and went on to 5—3. Leading 40—15 in the ninth game, the Rumjahns failed to take two match points and the score was 5—4. The champions made no mistake with the next game, however, and went out at 6—4.

Other Results

The following were the results of Club matches:—

H'cap Doubles (semi-final): T. C. Monaghan and T. J. Gould beat H. J. Armstrong and P. Wynter-Blyth 3-6, 6-2, 11-9.

H'cap Singles: R. E. Guest beat C. H. R. Oxlade 6-2, 7-5.

To-day's Matches

Following is to-day's Tennis Championship programme:

OPEN DOUBLES
Quarter-Final

W. C. Hung and E. C. Fincher v. Tsui Wai-pui and Tsui Yan-pui (Stand Court).

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
Semi-Final

R. E. Guest v. M. Pagh (8).

SOCCER INTERPORT DETAILS

By "Referee"

Arrangements for the Macao Soccer Interport are now complete and no less than 20 players have accepted the invitation of Hong Kong Football Association to make the trip.

The team will leave Hong Kong on the Sunday morning boat and return on Monday morning.

Unlike the hockey Interport Service men have been included in the party, among these being Bankier and Fraser of Royal Scots, Freshwater and Bright of Middlesex, and LePage, Hendy and Roughley of Royal Navy.

Mr. T. G. Stokes will be in charge of the team and will be assisted by Mr. L. Souza, Assistant Hon. Secretary of Hong Kong Football Association.

K. H. IP.

H.K.F.A. TEAM SELECTED FOR SATURDAY

The following have been selected to represent the Association against the Federation in the final of the Governor's Cup match to be played at Club ground on Saturday, April 19, kick-off at 4 p.m.

Players are requested to report to Capt. R. E. Guest, manager of the Association team, at the dressing room at 3.30 p.m. sharp. Players unable to turn out are requested to communicate with the Secretary before Friday.

Jerseys, shorts and stockings will be supplied.

Bankier (R. Scots), Roughley (Navy), and Fraser (R. Scots); Freshwater (M'sex), Bright (M'sex), Thomas (M'sex); Fowler (Club), LePage (Navy), Howlett (Police), Ferrier (Police), Rietsen (Club).

Reserves: Lapsley (Kowloon), Sheehan (M'sex), Blackburn (Police), Pope (Police), Hossack (R. Scots), Barber (Navy), Hendy (Navy).

EASTER STAKES WAS THRILLING RACE

By "Rapier"

RACING WAS CONTINUED on Monday and the main event was the Easter Stakes, and, before dealing with the other events, I propose setting down first my impressions of the running of this highly important event.

The excitement of the race will long be remembered; the performance of Oolong, which was admirably ridden by Mr. Needa, was magnificent.

In view of its previous win in record time in the Champions Stakes, Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) was made favourite, with Racylight (Mr. Wei) also highly-fancoured. Oolong, on the other hand, was not conceded much of a chance.

Dupont Bay (Mr. Yuen), set a fast pace, with Racylight, Spicylight (Mr. Liang) and Oolong following behind. On the speed at the outset of the race it was apparent that the record would be smashed.

Just after passing the Rock, Mr. Needa sent Oolong forward to overhaul Racylight which by this time was leading, and on the home straight being reached Oolong was in front, with Confusion Bay and Spicylight in close attendance.

These three ponies were featured in a bitter struggle, victory eventually going to Oolong by a head. Confusion Bay was second and Spicylight third. As expected a new record was established.

Great Struggle

Returning to the other events, the result of the first race was a win for Mr. Wei on Longdon, after a great struggle with Rooifly (Mr. Needa).

The third race, the Cabramatta Handicap (First Section) was the best race of the day. Catterick Bridge (Mr. Chao) and Cheerful Star (Mr. Proulx) dead-heating for first place.

Catterick Bridge set a fast pace and was followed by Cheerful Star and Double Finesse (Mr. Tao). This order was maintained until 50 yards from the post, when Cheerful Star caught Catterick Bridge, the two ponies finishing together. Double Finesse was third a short head behind.

Another Record

In the Albury Handicap for "A" Class Australian ponies, from the 1½ Mile Post, another record was established, this time by Distant View (Mr. Pih).

I cannot understand why Sapper (Mr. Proulx) should have been made favourite. Good as this pony is, I expected that the distance would be too short for it liking, and this was substantiated, the pony being unplaced.

Distant View took the lead, followed by Sapper and Endeavour (Mr. Wei). On rounding the bend Distant View was still leading, but Sapper was passed by Endeavour. Mr. Wei tried his hardest to catch Distant View but failed by half a length. Meanwhile Vanity Fair (Mr. Black) came up with a last-minute rush to take third place from Sapper.

Favourite Fails

Backed to the extent of 2,704 tickets for a win, Manhattan failed badly in the Wattle Park Handicap over six furlongs. Moonlight's win was not altogether unexpected.

Bendemeer (Mr. Hoo Pak-ming) took the lead, followed by National Welfare (Mr. Chang) and Moonlight. On rounding the bend Moonlight responded to Mr. Wei's call and forged ahead to pass the leaders and win by a length from A Surprising Time (Mr. Black), with the favourite, Manhattan, third another half-length behind.

So Nice, Mr. Tang up caused a big surprise in winning the Kellett Handicap (Second Section), coming home an easy winner to pay $67.30, the best dividend of the meeting.

Musketeer (Mr. R. K. C. Chui) made the running from the start, followed by Advancing Time (Mr. Black) and Night Express (Mr. Ip Kui-ying). Night Express was leading on rounding the bend, but was strongly challenged by So Nice. The latter went into the lead at the Two Mile Post to win by many lengths. Odeon (Mr. Tu) was third.

Mr. Wood Causes Surprise

In the Coolgardie Stakes (Second Section), over the Two Mile Post, punters were given another surprise when Mr. Wood brought in Wavworth to pay the second best win dividend of the afternoon. Harmony Star (Mr. S. W. Lee) took the lead, but on rounding the bend was overhauled by Bendigo (Mr. S. W. Pan), followed by Angel of Glory (Mr. Chao) and Bugle (Mr. Wei).

On coming into the straight Bugle went forward to take the lead but Wavworth, coming too strongly on the outside, passed it and went on to win by three lengths. Bendigo was third.

Bitter Pill

Punters had barely recovered from the shock of the previous race when they were called upon to swallow another bitter pill in the second section of the Cabramatta Handicap.

This time Mr. Chang caused the upset on National Courage, which brought off a fine win.

MIDDLEWEIGHT DIVISION IN BOXING BECOMES KNOWN AS MUDDLEWEIGHT

THE MIDDLEWEIGHT division has been in such a muddle for the last decade that fistic fans refer to the 160-pounders as muddleweights, writes Dillon Graham from New York.

Except for short periods the National Boxing Association, the New York commission and other state commissions have been at odds over so-called world champions during most of that stretch.

All boxing authorities can agree on only three world champions—Heavyweight Joe Louis, Light Heavyweight Billy Conn and Bantamweight Lou Salica—but none of the divisions have been quite so puzzling as the muddleweights since Mickey Walker withdrew to take on the heavyweights in 1931.

Just to show you how things went we'll trace the middleweight championship trail back to Walker.

Thil Supported

The N.B.A. ordered an elimination tournament to determine Walker's successor. New York did too. Gorilla Jones technically knocked out Addone Piazza to gain N.B.A. recognition. Ben Jeby grabbed New York designation by defeating Chick Devlin in 1932.

The N.B.A. went along with Marcel Thil when he won from Jones on a foul in France.

The New York version of the title passed in succession through little matches from Jeby to Lou Brouillard to Vince Dundee.

When Thil, as former President Harvey L. Miller of the N.B.A. explains it, "couldn't lose in Paris and won fight after fight on fouls (when no fouls were committed)," the N.B.A. voted to withdraw title recognition and recognised the bout between Dundee and Teddy Yarosz for the title.

Yarosz beat Dundee and was champion of both N.B.A. and New York. The crown passed from Yarosz to Babe Risko and on to Freddie Steele.

Then the two commissions forked off again on separate title roads.

The N.B.A. continued Steele as champion but New York withdrew recognition when Steele refused to fight its candidate, Fred Apostoli, in New York.

Apostoli had technically knocked out Steele in a non-title fight and previously had knocked out Thil.

The New York commission decided that Apostoli and Young Corbett would fight for the crown. Apostoli knocked out Corbett. Ceferino Garcia beat Apostoli and Ken Overlin won from Garcia.

Steele risked his N.B.A. title against Al Hostak and was knocked out. Solly Krieger kayoed Hostak and was then knocked out by Hostak in a return match. Tony Zale recently won from Hostak.

If a Zale-Overlin match can be arranged a generally accepted champion would emerge. Even then Billy Soose would have to be considered for he has scored non-title decisions over both Zale and Overlin.—Associated Press.

NEW P.O. CLUB BOWLS CONVENER

J. W. Hudson, who was bowls convener for the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last summer, has gone to Australia on four months' leave. The new convener for this Summer is S. Hodge, who has already arranged two intra-Club games, in preparation for the coming season.

TILDEN APPROACHING HIS HALF-CENTURY

POSSESSES A "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH"

THE MAN HAS KEPT his secret long enough. A committee of citizens should go to William Tatum Tilden, the Twice, and demand that he reveal the location of the Fountain of Youth, writes Henry McLemore.

If he wants a price for the whereabouts of the spring whose waters guarantee a perpetual broom to the cheeks and an unceasing bounce in the legs, then the insurance companies should pool their resources and meet his demands.

Tilden Succeeds

You must agree with me that William Tatum Tilden has succeeded where Ponce de Leon failed. Else how in the world are you going to explain the supernatural endurance of the long-legged, lantern jawed tennis player from Philadelphia? By all normal athletic standards, he should be wearing congress garters, peering with rheumy eyes over spectacles, and indulging in no more violent exercise than thumbing his clippings.

But where is the man? In some quiet retreat, spinning tales of how he felt when he won the No. 1 ranking in 1920? No, he is out banging and barnstorming around the country with a group of youngsters who were playing drop the handkerchief, London Bridge is Falling Down, and making mud pies when he was the world's greatest tennis player.

It was an announcement in the papers that he would play with Alice Marble in a few weeks that turned my thoughts to big Bill. The blurb said, among other things, that Bill was celebrating his 48th birthday, which, if you care to remember, is the third time in three years he has celebrated his 48th birthday. He seems to like the number 48. Having reached it, he apparently has decided to make it his very own. This gives him three legs on it.

Miss Marble Featured

Miss Marble was featured in the publicity, and I think the company's press agent is missing a good bet in not playing up Tilden as the star of the troupe. Not in the time of those now living will tennis lovers see the equal of Big Bill. The Perrys, the Vines, the Budges, and all the rest are marvellous players, but Tilden stands alone.

All you have to do to prove how he stands alone is to ask where his contemporaries in the golden-twenties are to-day. Bobby Jones is a comfortably plump lawyer in Atlanta, Babe Ruth is an uncomfortably fat watcher from the sidelines, Jack Dempsey is a heavy-jowled restaurateur in New York, Tommy Hitchcock has laid down the mallet to become a Wall Streeter. Jim Londos is wrestling punks on the kerosene circuit. Charlie Paddock's interests in spikes are limited to those on his newspaper desk. These, and others, were the men who made of the 1920's what Paul Gallico so aptly called the "Golden Decade in sports."

Tilden Carries On

Of them all, only Tilden carries on, and he doesn't carry on in a doddering, pathetic fashion, either. How many tennis players are there in the world who could beat him in a one-set match to-day? Budge might, and the redhead is about the only one. And in a five-set, regulation match, there aren't more than half a dozen players you'd care to bet on to lick the Philadelphian. His legs are still spry enough to make him a fine coverer, and what his legs lack is more than made up by what he carries around in that head of his. As long ago as 1918 Tilden was No. 2 in national ranking—23 years—but still he continues to play and play well. Indoor courts, clay courts, en-tout-cas courts, grass courts, cement courts, good lights, bad lights, they are all the same to him.

When he reaches my town I want to see him. It may be my last chance before the Smithsonian Institute scouts pick him up and put him in a glass cage next to Eli Whitney's cotton gin. Too, I want a slug of that Fountain of Youth water he carries around in his canteen. And I'll take it straight.

TENNIS ENTRIES EXTENDED

As only a small number of tennis League entries were received up to yesterday, the closing date has been extended to April 23.

MACAO TEAM BEATEN

A scratch hockey team, comprising players from Central British Association, Police and Recreio, beat Macao Lyceum 2-0 on the C.B.A. ground yesterday.

The local team scored in the first half, Taylor converting a short-corner. Yvanovich broke through in the second half to add the second goal.

The local team was:—T. L. Lockhart (C.B.A.); J. B. Gonsalves (Recreio), A. M. Xavier (Nomads); J. Heywood (Police), C. Gough (Police), A. M. Alves (Recreio); P. Yvanovich (Recreio), D. Taylor (C.B.A.), N. D. Whitley (C.B.A.), J. Fonseca (Recreio), A. Odell (C.B.A.).

CORRESPONDENCE

To The Sports Editor,
"The China Mail".

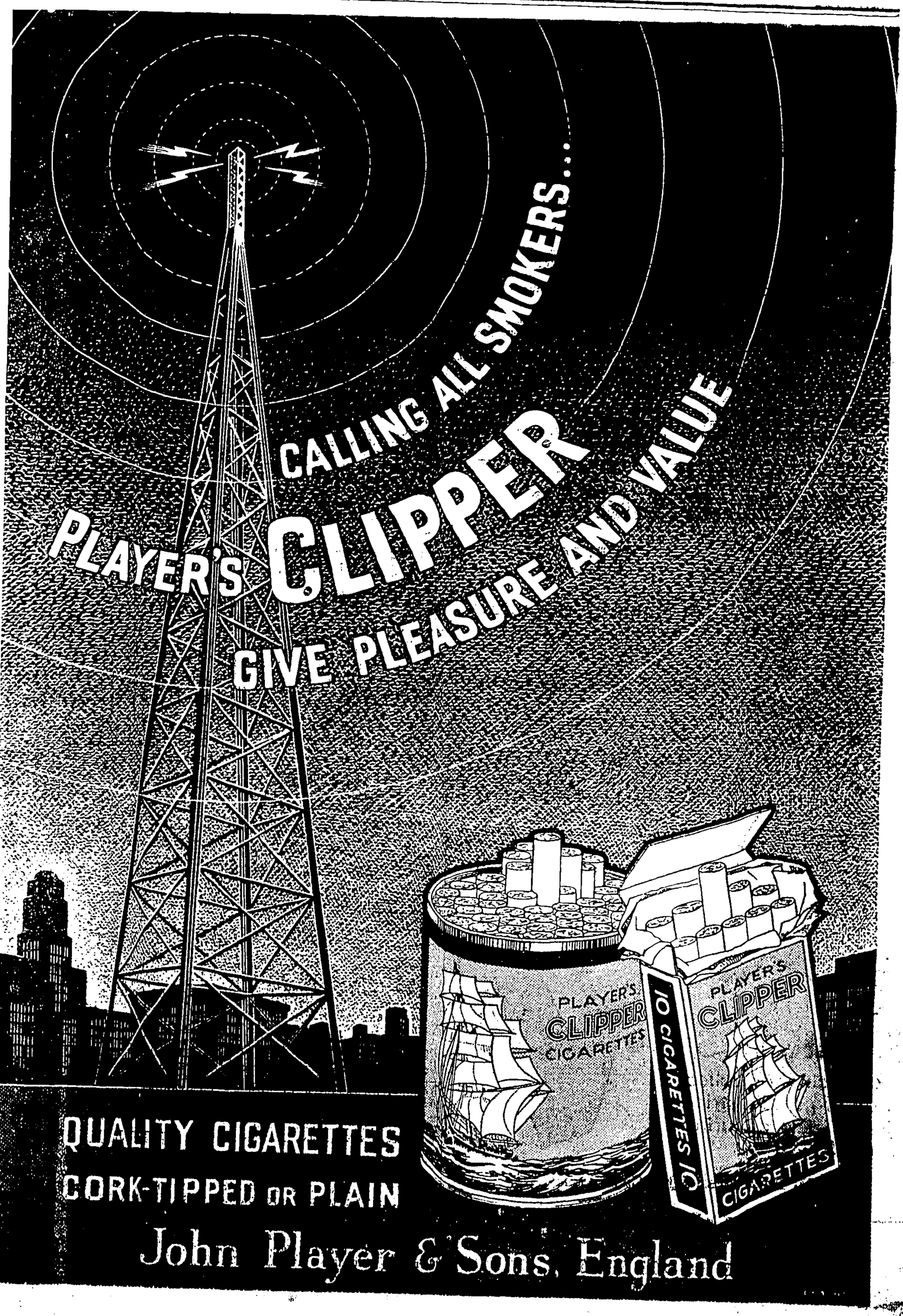
Sir—It has been brought to my attention that Pte. Noble, Middlesex Regiment, who is the Army lightweight boxing champion on this Station, is ready to meet anyone in the Colony who can make the weight.

I, as holder of the bantam-featherweight titles, would like to meet Noble over 15 three-minute rounds.

I can find a promoter to stage the fight and if Noble is interested I shall be glad if he will accept my challenge in your columns.

And while I am on the subject of boxing, I am greatly disappointed that Len Collins has so far failed to sign the contract for a fight with me, although a promoter has already been found.

Sal Aromin



ITALIAN GENERAL CAPTURED ON A MULE!

End Of East African Campaign Within Sight

Little Left To Do Except Round Up Prisoners

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent at Addis Abbaba)

GENERAL PESANTI, ITALIAN DIVISIONAL COMMANDER WHOSE CAPTURE WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY, WAS OVERTAKEN BY IMPERIAL FORCES WHEN PLODDING ALONG ON A MULE BETWEEN A REMOTE VILLAGE AND ADDIS ABABA.

He is now occupying the bedroom of General Santini, who has been removed to an unknown destination.

Another prisoner is Colonel Rolle, leader of the notorious banda (native) group. He, with a staff of 11 officers and 700 banda, was captured near the Awash River by two South African subalterns (one of whom was a grandson of General Botha) and 17 men.

Two enemy bodies, 600 strong, approaching to surrender from different directions, and with nerves on edge, opened fire on each other.

Six were killed before a South African regiment intervened and took them prisoner.

British columns are now at the heels of the retreating Italians in three main sectors, namely Mussolini Pass, 100 miles from Addis Ababa on the Dessie road, in the heart of the Arussia Mountains east of the Abyssinian lakes, and on the Omo River, on the way to Jimma.

Melting Away

Abyssinian patriots are increasingly helping to disintegrate the Duke of Aosta's forces. They are showing restraint, however, and are permitting the Italians to reach the British lines.

A colonel of the Transvaal Regiment met an army of 10,000 patriots headed 6 foot 3 inches Ras Gurassu, who informed him the South Africans' flank was threatened by two Italian battalions.

The colonel thereupon sent a letter to the Italians threatening to attack with "my big guns, tanks and Gurassu" The Italians melted away overnight. — Reuter.

Ceaseless Streams Of Prisoners

A ceaseless stream of Italian prisoners continues to come in at Addis Ababa although the Italian troops were evacuated from there.

Several battalions have been taken complete.

A communique issued in Nairobi says that Italian native units are losing numbers of deserters and in one case these formed themselves into bands which are operating independently against the Italians now. — Reuter.

FIERCE NAZI ATTACKS ON ALLIED POSITIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

New Line Not Pierced

The announcer quoted a Greek Press Ministry bulletin which said: "All ordered movements of our forces in taking up their new positions were effected without loss.

"British and Imperial forces, cooperating with the Greek army, succeeded in repulsing German mechanised columns at many points and inflicted considerable damage on the enemy.

"DESPITE THEIR TREMENDOUS EFFORTS THE GERMANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE AT ANY POINT TO PIERCE THE NEW GREEK LINE OF RESISTANCE.

"While the situation on the northern Greek front is still serious there are good grounds for hope.

R.A.F. Plays Havoc

"On the Albanian front the Greeks have repulsed local Italian attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

"The R.A.F. again distinguished themselves, playing havoc with German columns on the march and heavily attacking enemy supply bases."—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WANG CHING-WEI REGIME, ACCOMPANIED BY JAPANESE OFFICIALS, ARE REPORTED TO HAVE VISITED THE FORMER PREMISES OF THE CHINESE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION IN THE SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL SETTTLEMENT THIS MORNING.

Object was the taking over of control of the Association offices.

The party, however, is said to have withdrawn when told the offices had been moved. - Reuter.

FAR EAST CONFERENCE IN U.S.

The British and Australian Ministers in Washington held a conference at the State Department yesterday.

Conditions in the Far East were stated to be the main subject discussed.

Mr. Nevile Butler, the British Minister, who saw Mr. Sumner Welles, (U.S. Assistant Secretary of State) afterwards, told the press that shipping in the Pacific was among subjects dealt with. Reuter.

CHINESE BANKS SUSPEND

THE FOUR CHINESE GOVERNMENT BANKS IN SHANGHAI HAVE SUSPENDED BUSINESS IN THE CITY, WHILE THE CHINA DOLLAR HAS DROPPED TO 3-3/16D.

AN OFFICIAL OF ONE OF THE BANKS TOLD REUTER THIS MORNING: "WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ALL THE GOVERNMENT BANKS WILL REOPEN FOR BUSINESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. NOTHING IS YET DEFINITE."

It is understood the banks closed down without the knowledge of Chungking following the early morning murder of two Bank of China employees as a result of the killing of a Federal Reserve Bank official.

The staffs are refusing to carry on unless assured of protection for themselves and their families. — Reuter.

NAVICERTS FOR FRENCH SHIPS

Two French ships provided with British navicerts are leaving New York to-day for Marseilles with 13,500 tons of United States flour for unoccupied France. — Reuter.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

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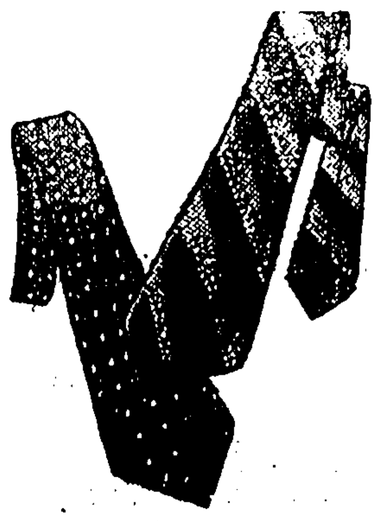

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GERMANS IN LIBYA STOPPED

See Page 2

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FURIOUS BATTLE IN RUGGED MOUNT OLYMPUS REGION

Momentum Of Nazi Attack Weakened

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THERE IS AN EVIDENT FEELING OF OPTIMISM IN ATHENS THAT THE GERMAN SURGE INTO GREECE WILL BE HALTED AS THE ALLIES AND THE INVADERS CLASH IN FORCE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WHAT IS DEVELOPING INTO ONE OF THE WAR'S MOST FURIOUS BATTLES IN THE RUGGED COUNTRY OF EASTERN GREECE.

The initial German momentum has weakened considerably after vain attempts to open a gap in the Allied defence lines, and several German mechanised rushes were repulsed by intense artillery fire, which inflicted heavy losses.

Earlier a Greek spokesman had conceded that German panzer troops were deep in north Greece, while mechanised forces based on Kozani had arrived at the western outlet of Siatista Pass, 50 miles within Greece and now relatively smooth terrain to the southward. The enemy also took Klisura Pass, miles above Siatista.

Athens radio stated a major battle is progressing in western Macedonia between Greek and German forces. The announcer declared the Nazis had failed to pierce the main Greek lines at any point.

Meanwhile, German propaganda, which has been alleging that British troops in Greece were evacuating, has had to reverse this stand.

Tune Changed

The British troops, Goebbels now says, started to re-embark but cancelled the operation and are now beginning to return to the battle-line.

Berlin quarters continue to put out the claim that the Nazis, after fighting at close quarters, have breached the defences north of Larissa, capturing the important pass and taking hundreds of prisoners.

British prisoners were Anzacs and men from the Midlands, it was claimed.

Yugoslav Campaign Of Words

The Germans continue to put out propaganda rumours of Yugoslav offers of capitaluation and of the destruction of the Yugoslav Army. One such story, for instance, says that the Yugoslav Second Army has capitulated at Sarajevo, while they also announce the Italian capture of Spalato.

The Germans also allege that "local Serb delegates offered capitulation but this was unacceptable on the grounds that a Yugoslav governing body does not exist."

The Germans allege two Nazi divisions routed six Serb divisions, capturing eight generals and 50,000 men. — International News Service.

BIG BERTHAS SHELL DOVER AREA

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

R.A.F. 'planes are reported to have raided enemy invasion bases in France at dusk yesterday.

German Big Ber thas methodically shelled the Dover area. — International News Service.

SHANGHAI ELECTION DILEMMA

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The tussle over Chinese seats on the Shanghai Municipal Council is growing as the Chinese Ratepayers Association has virtually split into two bodies, which have issued conflicting statements.

The pro-Chungking camp informed the Council of the renomination of old councillors with the exception of Mr Yu Ya-ching.

The pro-Nanking camp nominated Mr. Jabin Hsu, high Central Reserve Bank official, and Mr. T. C. Chang, Nanking regime official.

While Nanking circles declare pro-Chungking ratepayers will soon be suppressed, the Council is on the horns of a dilemma. Two Nanking councillors would strengthen the Axis hand in the S.M.C.—International News Service.

Wang Move

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BIG RAID ON LONDON

The air raid alarm, sounding at an early hour in London last night, introduced what shortly afterwards appeared to be one of the biggest raids on the British metropolis for some time.

Enemy 'planes began to drone their way over London in waves immediately after the sirens had died away.

A.A. guns hurled shells into the air over a wide area with the heaviest racket of this year.

Over one outer district a large number of flares lit up the streets and many 'planes were heard flying much lower than in previous raids.

One German bomber was blown out of the sky within a few minutes of the alert while flying at about 5,000 feet.

High explosive bombs fell in one London district soon after.

R.A.F. fighters soared to attack the Luftwaffe and machine-gun fire was heard as the enemy was engaged.—Reuter.

Crash In Shanghai Dollar

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The Chinese dollar in Shanghai this morning fell to $19.50 as Chungking banks in the city closed for two days in a panic wave over the murder of a Central Reserve Bank accountant.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank has suspended foreign currency business until the panic subsides. — International News Service.

ANTI-CONVOY RESOLUTION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE U.S. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAS UNANIMOUSLY POSTPONED ACTION ON THE CONVOY RESOLUTION TO APRIL 30, AND HAS ASKED FOR A STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT.

The resolution would prohibit the use of U.S. warships to convoy vessels with Lease and Lend material en route to combat zone ports. — International News Service.

ENTIRE CONVOY TRAPPED BY NAVY

See Page 3

BRITISH REQUEST TO U.S.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The British-Australian-American conference in Washington yesterday discussed a British request for the United States to take over some British shipping routes in the Pacific and so release British vessels for carrying supplies across the Atlantic.

Mr. Nevile Butler, the British Minister, said the British Pacific shipping question was "urgent."

Questioned regarding a report that Japan had agreed to "loan" warsh ps to Germany for Pacific raiding, Mr. Butler said: "That would be a pretty serious step for the Japanese to take. They are cautious people and I do not think they would do that."—International News Service.

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German Advance Through Libya Brought To A Halt

COVENTRY MOURNS BLITZ VICTIMS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Three thousand mourners followed a long line of coffins through the blitzed streets of Coventry as the town held another mass burial service for those killed in the latest German raid

It is reported that another mass burial is pending, indication of the terrific toll taken in the latest German blitz International News Service

HITLER'S BALKAN FOLLY

Anne McCormick, the New York columnist, says the Balkan campaign is costing Hitler more than it will be worth if he wins.

What will Germany gain on the peninsula that she has not had before" she asks. Britain may lose her toe-hold on the Continent, which will not affect the war's outcome.

The Yugoslavs and Greeks may suffer what they suffered yesterday and come back stronger than ever.

But the Germans are paying heavily for what they expected to be delivered gratis.

The most the Nazis can win is two more hostile populations to police, more sabotage and reduced supplies.

The labour that served them has been diverted to fighting, and damaged towns, railways and farmlands will take months to repair. Reuter.

IMPORTANT EVENTS PREDICTED

Colonel Popoff, the Soviet military expert, reviewing the situation in North Africa in the newspaper "Red Star," expects "rather important" developments in the next few days.

He cites the "considerable increase" in the activity of the R.A.F. in North Africa as indicative of coming events.

"The British Command is doubtless preparing a counter-blow. Where the blow will come from is difficult to say. It may be from the Tobruk region, Siwa Oasis or Mersa Matruh," he adds. —Reuter.

HUNDREDS OF EXHAUSTED PRISONERS TAKEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BRITISH QUARTERS in Cairo reported that the swift German and Italian advance into Egypt from Libya has finally been stopped.

Suffering from lack of water and food and exhausted by the swift campaign in the Libyan desert inferno, the German mechanised troops have been halted by the stone wall of British defences east of Sollum, according to army circles.

Hundreds of German prisoners, unaccustomed to fighting under harsh desert conditions, were found to be in "the last stages of exhaustion" when taken outside Tobruk in the first important British counter-attack in the present phase of the war

The Germans said they had been without food and water for days and lacked the strength to obey orders for another swift advance.

While attacking Tobruk in an attempt to rescue the British garrison there, Imperial troops have taken up strong defensive positions between Sollum and Mersa Matruh International News Service

Situation Stationary

The Libyan situation has been stationary for the last four days, according to well-informed circles in Cairo yesterday.

While patrol activity continues in the Sollum area, on the Egyptian border, there has been occasional hard fighting. Enemy losses run into hundreds, it is stated.

There is no indication that the Nazis have increased the strength of their forward units. Reuter

FAR EAST CONFERENCE IN U.S.

The British and Australian Ministers in Washington held a conference at the State Department yesterday.

Conditions in the Far East were stated to be the main subject discussed.

Mr. Nevile Butler, the British Minister, who saw Mr. Sumner Welles (U.S. Assistant Secretary of State) afterwards, told the press that shipping in the Pacific was among subjects dealt with.—Reuter.

FAMOUS BROKER NOW A PRIVATE

WITH HIS SALARY DROPPING FROM $48,000 A YEAR TO $21 A MONTH, MR. W. M. MARTIN, JR., PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, YESTERDAY BECAME A PRIVATE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

MARTIN EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD ENTER THE WAR. — REUTER.

ROOSEVELT CONDEMNS HUNGARY

President Roosevelt proclaimed yesterday that a state of war exists between Hungary and Yugoslavia, and added that Hungary attacked Yugoslavia "without justification."

Effect of the proclamation is to place these two nations under the United States Neutrality regulations. -Reuter.

NAVY SHELLS NAZIS

Ships of the Royal Navy are constantly and successfully harrasing enemy operations on the Libyan coast by bombardment.

This is stated in a report by the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, given in an Admiralty communique yesterday.

Enemy positions and transport columns on the escarpment road west of Sollum have been bombarded with particularly good results.

El Gazala aerodrome, to the west of Tobruk, has also been heavily bombarded from the sea and at least five aircraft destroyed on the ground.—Reuter.

HUNGARIAN INVASION BOMBAST

The progress of the Hungarian invasion of Yugoslavia is recorded in a High Command communique from Budapest. It states: "Our troops today occupied the south-western portion of trans-Danubia up to the Croat frontier.

"Mopping up of the region between the Rivers Danube and Tisza and the enumeration of war prisoners and booty is proceeding.

"According to present indications the number of prisoners totals 15,000 and is increasing. The booty includes about 100 guns and very valuable material."—Reuter.

ELOQUENT STORY OF SURRENDER OF ADDIS ABABA

DESCRIBING THE entry into Addis Ababa of the British and Imperial forces, an event which virtually ended the Italian East African "empire," a war correspondent says:

"Italian soldiers and police left in Addis Ababa to maintain order gave us the British salute, while Abyssinians flocked towards us, arms outstretched in the Fascist manner.

European men and women welcomed us with occasional smiles but for the most part stared goggle-eyed at this most unwarlike occupation.

My African servant, in a truck behind mine, exclaimed in astonishment 'Why, they're happy.'

Small boys ran forward to sell us newspapers whenever one of our cars stopped. There was no trace of hostility anywhere although soldiers looked down on us from the windows of houses, puzzled because there were no armoured cars to protect our procession."

When the Palace of the Duke of Aosta was reached, the correspondent saw an Italian guard of honour drawn up and a crowd of notables assembled.

"General Mombrini, military governor of Addis Ababa, stood with the mayor in the middle of the doorway to receive the British General.

A civilian secretary came forward from the Palace and helped us spell the more difficult names of Italian generals. We assisted him with probable details of the arrival of British vehicles.

Short Ceremony

The surrender ceremony, when the British leaders arrived, was the shortest possible.

High British officers came up preceded by a squad of Italian motor-cycle police.

Their staffs accompanied them but they brought no troops or arms, except one armoured car flying a Union Jack home made by the daughter of a former Acting Governor of Kenya, General Harrigan.

The British General, after being greeted by the Italian representatives and receiving a salute from the guard of honour, went quickly into the house.

The only pageantry was provided by flags. The Italian flag, which had been hauled down, was flown again in order to be ceremoniously struck with full honours after which it was an extraordinary sight to see the Union Jack greeted with the Fascist salute by the Italian officers and the guard as it was broken at the top of the mast.

None But British

None but the British could so unostentatiously have occupied a city which had been the object of such arduous fighting.

The attitude of the Abyssinians showed they were delighted with the British occupation.

Even the Italians did not appear to mind losing the campaign in the Nazi-Fascist war and they were relieved at having escaped a major rising of Abyssinians in Addis Ababa."

No Reprisals

The correspondent says that later he found himself in the midst of an immense crowd of Abyssinians coming from a conference with the British General, where problems had been discussed and the General had asked the inhabitants to refrain from committing reprisals against the Italians in order to save the British forces from the necessity of spending too much energy on policing Addis Ababa, so that the fullest use of as many troops as possible to break the Italians' final resistance could be made.

The correspondent later drove through the streets where, when he was recognised as English, he was received with remarkable demonstrations of thanks.

Summing up his impressions of the drive he says: "I have never seen emotions to compare wit this demonstration. We drove o deeply moved, feeling that for on moment we stood in their eyes the personification of Britain." British Wireless.

REPUDIATE THEIR OWN PROPAGANDA!

Rumours current abroad of negotiations being conducted for a cessation of hostilities in the Balkans, are not confirmed by political circles in Berlin, said a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman in the Nazi capital yesterday.

A semi-official statement says "It is doubtful whether there are any quarters in Serbia which would be able to negotiate an authoritative agreement on this score.

"Military events in Serbia have entered a stage where an armistice is out of the question as," so claimed the Nazi spokesman, "the Serbian army, as such, is completely annihilated."—Reuter.

EIGHT FOR THE NIGHT

It was learned in London yesterday that two more enemy bombers were destroyed over England on Tuesday night, making a total of eight for the night — Reuter.

ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY TRAPPED

Five Supply Ships And Three Destroyers Sunk

Ammunition Ship Goes Up With Terrific Explosion

AN ENTIRE ENEMY CONVOY, CONSISTING OF FIVE SUPPLY SHIPS, ESCORTED BY THREE DESTROYERS, AND BOUND FROM SICILY FOR TRIPOLI, WAS SUNK ON TUESDAY NIGHT BY BRITISH NAVAL FORCES.

Announcing this in London yesterday the Admiralty states: "Two of the supply ships were vessels of about 5,000 tons, heavily laden with motor transport. These were sunk.

"Another was an ammunition ship of about 4,000 tons which blew up with a terrific explosion. The other two ships, of about 3,000 tons, also blew up.

"THE CONVOY WAS ESCORTED BY THE ITALIAN DESTROYER "LUCA TARIGO," OF 1628 TONS, AND TWO SMALLER DESTROYERS. ALL THREE WERE SUNK

"The Admiralty regret to announce that during this successful operation H.M.S. Mohawk was hit by torpedoes and sunk.

The majority of the ship's complement including the commanding officer, were rescued." Reuter

Mohawk was a destroyer of 1,870 tons and was commissioned in 1938. She carried eight 4.7-inch guns.

COLIMA QUAKE DISASTER

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Scores were killed and more than 500 injured in the city of Colima, on the west coast of Mexico, when the violent earthquake felt throughout Mexico levelled the city and left it in ruins.

Half the city was destroyed by the 'quake, and scores of fires broke out, threatening the remainder.

The volcano of Colima, only 25 miles north of the city erupted violently, adding to the dangers threatening the stricken populace of 30,000. International News Service.

Worse Than Feared!

Most of the 15,000 inhabitants of Colima are believed to be either killed or injured, states a Reuter despatch from Mexico City.

Three-quarters of the town are reported to have been destroyed in the 'quake. — Reuter.

Populace Panicky

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It is now feared that the toll at 200 dead in the Mexican earthquake will prove much larger, as new reports are received in Mexico City.

A military report says Tuxpam was destroyed and at least 100 were killed.

Colima is a shambles, with scores killed.

The Guadalajara correspondent of the newspaper "Nove Dades" says six hamlets near Tuxpam have disappeared. He adds the volcanoes of Zoveluco and Decolima, near Colima, have erupted, causing forest fires. The populace is panicking.—International News Service.

EQUIPING NEW POLISH ARMY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

GENERAL SIKORSKY, THE POLISH PREMIER, WHO IS NOW IN THE UNITED STATES STATED YESTERDAY THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO ARM A NEW POLISH ARMY AND AIR FORCE.

General Sikorsky said that the money would be forthcoming under the Lease and Lend Act.

Recruits were being trained in Canada, he said, and already a great number of Americans of Polish extraction plan to join the new army. — International News Service.

NAZI WAR ON THE CHURCH

The anti-Catholic activities of Nazi Germany were condemned last night by the Vatican radio.

The announcer said that since 1933 the Catholic Church in Germany had lost all its schools, ecclesiastical organisations and newspapers except for a few weeklies which were unable to answer Nazi attacks on the Catholic religion.

Everything was being done to eliminate Catholic teachers from the National-Socialist system.

Under a decree just issued all wishing to enter Holy Orders had first to join a labour camp from which they could not get away without permission.

"This will be the end of religion in Germany," the announcer commented. Reuter.

R.A.F. SHATTERS LUFTWAFFE IN GREECE

(By Reuter's Correspondent in Greece)

BRITISH PILOTS ARE FIGHTING HERE WITH FEARLESS FEROCITY AGAINST GOERING'S LUFTWAFFE.

In the short time since the Germans started their latest aggression in the Balkans one R.A.F. squadron alone has brought down 100 German 'planes.

One young British pilot officer has bagged five German 'planes in the last three days.

SALIENT FACT IN THE PRESENT AIR WAR OVER GREECE IS THAT THE GERMANS ARE EMPLOYING A LARGE FLEET OF DIVE-BOMBERS IN ATTACKS ON IMPERIAL TROOPS AND HARBOURS, BUT MANY BOMBS ARE FALLING HARMLESSLY ON MOUNTAINSIDES OR IN THE SEA, FOR NO AIRCRAFT CAN POSSIBLY CONCENTRATE ON BOMB AIMING WHEN A SPEEDY BRITISH HAWKER HURRICANE FIGHTER PERSISTENTLY ATTACKS CLOSE TO ITS TAIL.

Result of all these air battles has been a considerable depletion of the German dive-bombers.—Reuter.

U.S. ARMY AGE LIMIT PROBLEM

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

President Roosevelt revealed that he is studying proposals to lower the age limits for selective service in the Army but no decision is likely to be made until September.

Official quarters think the new limits will be 18 to 25 years.—International News Service.

GERMAN DEMAND IN U.S.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

GERMANY FIRED A NEW ROUND IN THE AXIS BOMBARDMENT OF PROTESTS AGAINST THE SEIZURE OF 30 GERMAN AND ITALIAN SHIPS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHEN SHE LODGED A DEMAND WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE MOTORSHIP "ARAUCA," TAKEN OVER AT PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA.

The Italian Government has already filed four protests over the seizure of 28 Fascist vessels.—International News Service.

BLACK-OUT DECISION

The Immigration Officer announces that because of the black-out this evening, there will be no examination of ship's passengers after 6 p.m.

U.S. NOT INTERVENING WITH EIRE

Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, indicated yesterday that the U.S. Government has no intention of asking Eire to grant naval bases to Britain.

He said that contrary to various rumours there had been no discussion, much less negotiation, on the question with Eire officials in Washington Reuter.

Britain's Ace Night Pilot

The British pilot of a night-fighter shot down no fewer than three German bombers on Tuesday night, the Air Ministry announces.

This ace, who recently was awarded the D.F.C. and was promoted commander of his squadron for marked ability in night fighting, has now destroyed 10 nocturnal raiders.

A fellow pilot shot down two, bringing the squadron's total bag to five.—Reuter

JAPAN'S FLYING SUBMARINES?

Japanese military and naval activities in South China have increased following the conclusion of the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact, according to a report appearing in a leading Chinese paper in Shanghai.

The report says the whole of the Japanese forces in South China are now being reorganised for a possible southward penetration and that more than 20 Japanese submarines have appeared in South China waters and have extended their activities to the Bay of Bengal!

It is further stated that Japanese troops in Hainan, the island off the coast of French Indo-China, have been impressing able-bodied Chinese workers to form a South China Sea transport corps. —Reuter.

CHINA BRITONS' WAR EFFORT

Reuter's Shanghai correspondent says that a letter received from a former Shanghailander relates his pleasant surprise when he saw an ambulance in Cheltenham marked "Presented By The Central British War Fund, Shanghai."

The magnificent efforts of Britons in China in contributions to various war funds is therefore now having visible results and it is to be hoped that as the war progresses more and more aid will be given to those at home in the battle against Germany. — Reuter.

MERSEY FIRE BLITZ

[SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL"]

Thousands of firebombs, mingled with high explosives, were dumped on Liverpool during Tuesday night as German raiders carried out one of the war's most widespread attacks on Britain.

Casualties are reported both in Liverpool and London.

Blazing A.A. fire from defence posts all over Britain accounted for at least two Nazi 'planes.

Throughout the evening great fleets of Nazi aircraft were beaten off as they struck across the British coast, but many penetrated the outer British defences and bombed London and a dozen other sections.

A stick of high explosive bombs dropped on one section of the capital by high-flying raiders caused several casualties and buried several persons under debris. International News Service.

SHIP'S MASTER FINED

Captain Robert Arthur Pritchard appeared at the Marine Court this morning charged with allowing his vessel to proceed inside the marking buoy and the South shore of Lamma Island, thus committing a breach of regulations.

Sergeant Handlay, of the Royal Marines, stated that he was on duty on the afternoon of April 7 and saw defendant's ship leaving the Beaufort Channel and taking a westerly course until it disappeared. By maintaining this course, he failed to comply with the regulations.

Captain Pritchard stated:—"Before leaving harbour we have to go through the boom gates with the necessary signals to pass outwards. After passing the boom and rounding into Tathong Channel close to d'Aguilar Signal Station and passing the Tathong Channel, signal flags are kept flying until we are close to the Lamma Island signal station. At the time, I was not aware whether the buoy was placed for ships to pass to the South of it," concluded Captain Pritchard.

Commander Stiff reminded defendant of the notice which was posted on February 20 and appeared afterwards in the "Government Gazette."

Captain Pritchard stated this was the first time he was aware of the notice and besides the buoy was too small to see.

Inspector Olivier, prosecuting, admitted that the buoy was small and sometimes difficult to see, but said there was no reason why the buoy could not be seen in plain daylight.

A fine of $30 was imposed.

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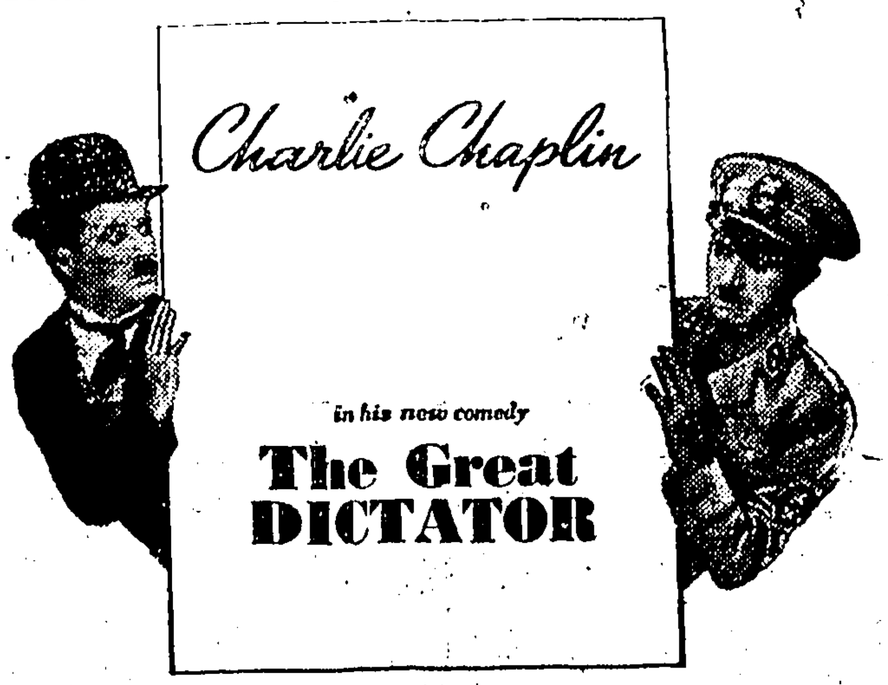

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BRITISH WARSHIP REPAIR PRIORITY

British warships brought to the United States for repairs are given priority over everything else in Navy yards, declared Col. Frank Knox, Secretary for Navy, to his press conference in Washington yesterday.

This would inevitably affect the Navy's own shipbuilding programme but he hoped the two-ocean navy would not be delayed as a result.

Col. Knox said the British battleship Malaya, which recently arrived in New York, was only the first of a number of vessels expected to enter United States harbours for repairs.

While saying it would be highly improper to discuss the possibility of the U.S. Navy convoying forces to Greenland Col. Knox hinted that the Navy had such plans in mind by declaring: Every well-run Navy has to have plans for every contingency, and that is such a contingency.—Reuter.

CANADIAN PREMIER'S QUEST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Premier, who has gone to Washington to confer with President Roosevelt, had a long conversation with the U.S. Minister, Mr. Pierrepont Moffat, before leaving.

It has been tentatively arranged for Mr. King and President Roosevelt to journey together to Warm Springs for their conference.

It is understood that one of the chief subjects to be discussed will be the setting up of a "credit account" under the Lease and Lend Act for Canadian war purchases in the United States, now running at the rate of a billion dollars a year.—International News Service.

Tea At White House

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, who was expected in Washington yesterday, was invited to tea at the White House by President Roosevelt.

Over the tea cups it was expected the two statesmen would hold a highly important conference bearing upon war problems. — Reuter.

SHANGHAI TERRORISM

Two Chinese policemen and a Chinese guard were injured when a hand-grenade was thrown into the home of Judge Feng Sze-tuck, acting Judge in Chungking's Second Kiangsu High Court, in the International Settlement of Shanghai at 3 o'clock this morning.

The guards opened fire but without result.

Judge Feng is reported to have been seriously injured and is now in hospital.—Reuter.

MORE PRISONERS REACH S. AFRICA

A further batch of 2,500 Italian prisoners, including officers, were landed at a port in the Union of South Africa yesterday. Enemy prisoners in the Union now total 10,000. — Reuter.

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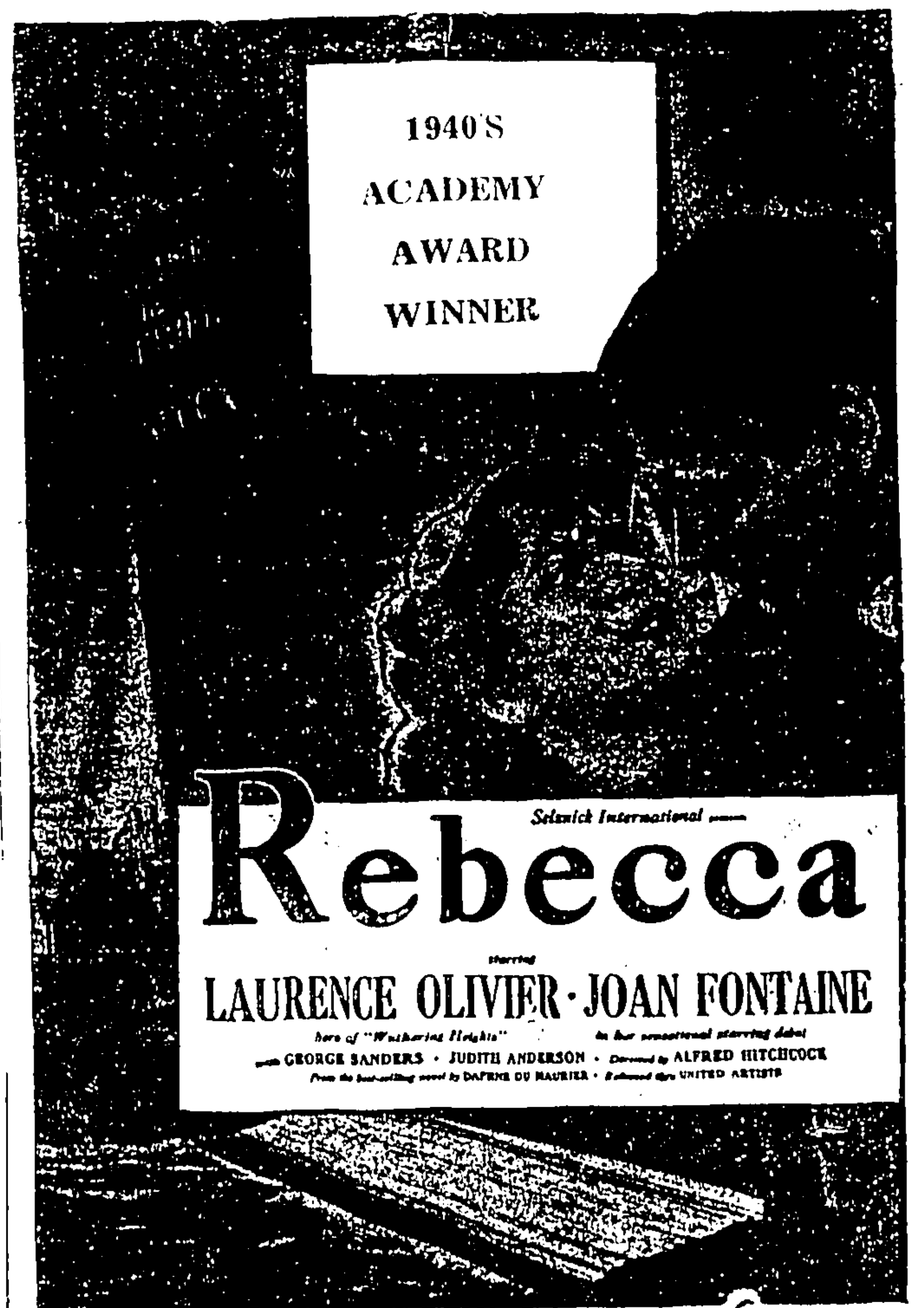

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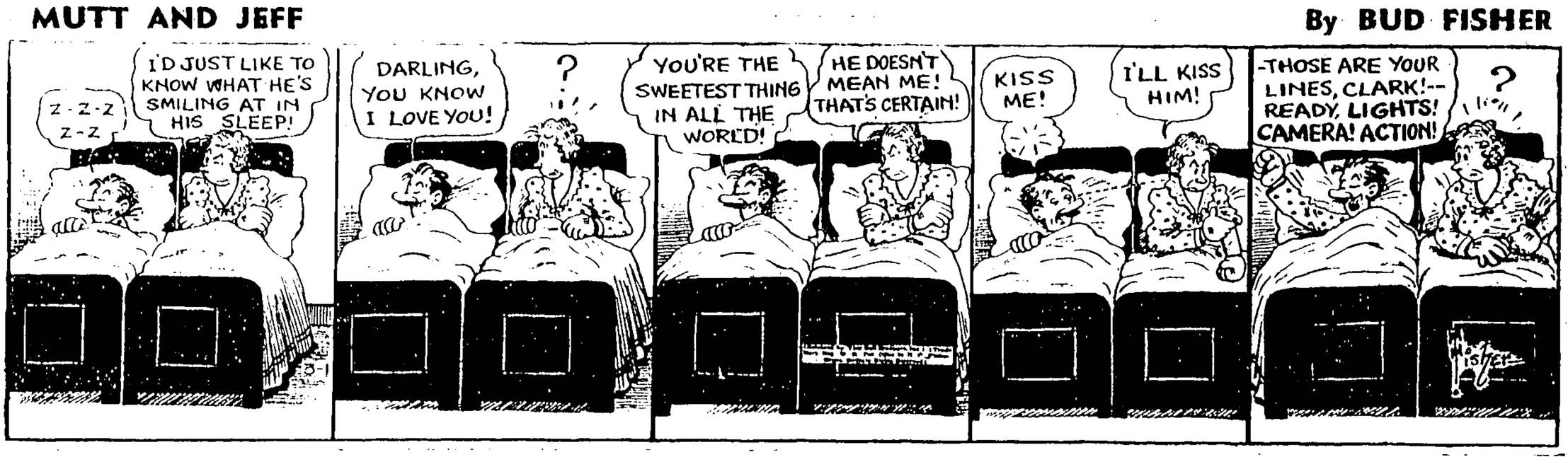

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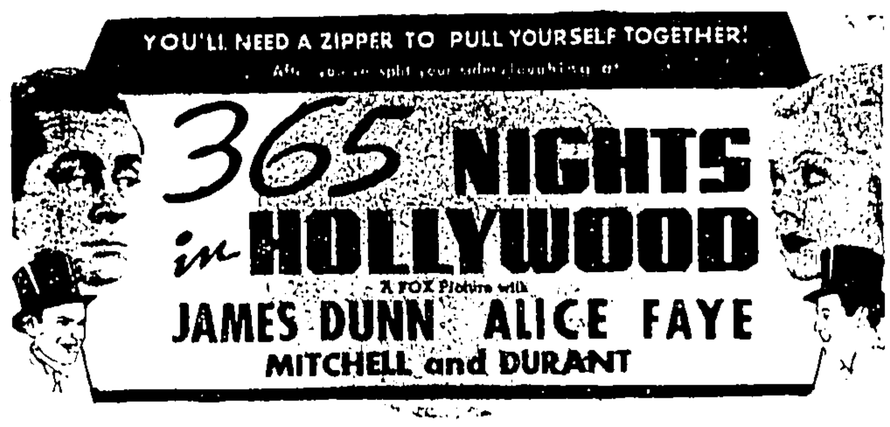

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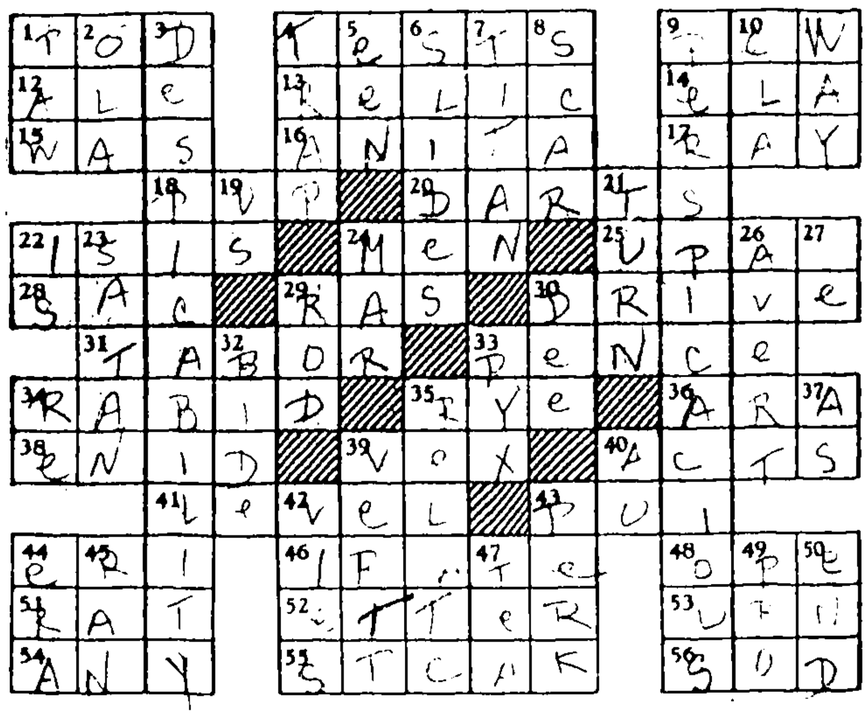
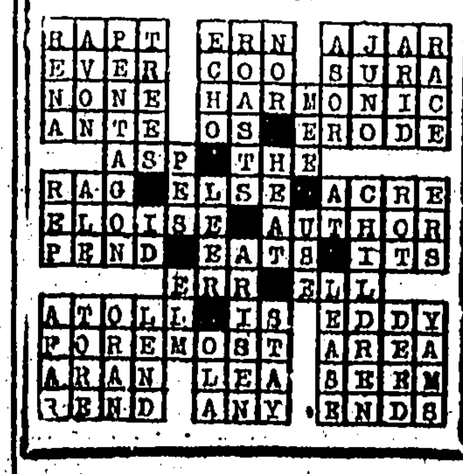


HORIZONTAL
1 Seed covering
4 Examinations
9 Church seat
12 Beverage
13 Memento
14 High note
15 Used to be
16 Girl's name
17 Beam
18 Young dog
20 Moves quickly
22 Egyptian deity
24 Chess pieces
25 Poisonous tree
28 Pouch
29 Ethiopian title
30 To incite
31 Moorish drum
33 English coins
34 Fanatical
35 Cereal grass
36 Constellation
38 Wife of Geraint
39 To irritate
40 Does
41 Even
43 Hawaiian dish
44 Silkworm
46 Angry
48 Poetic: to unclose
51 Rodent
52 Compound ether
53 Vase
54 Some
55 Cut of meat
56 Earth

VERTICAL
1 Animal's foot
2 Palm leaf
3 Contemptibleness
4 Snare
5 Poetic: nightfall
6 Slips
7 Giant
8 Cleatrix
9 Clear-sighted
10 Guido's high note
11 Manner
19 You and me
21 To change
22 Exists
23 The devil
24 To disfigure
26 To ward off
27 Compass point
29 Length measure
30 River in England
32 To tolerate
33 To test in fineness and weight
34 Note of scale
35 To tell
37 While
39 Russian measure of length
40 Indo-Chinese language
42 Contends
43 To lift quickly
44 Epoch
45 Sped
47 Beverage
49 Prefix: in favour of
50 Finish

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



DISASTROUS JAPANESE FIRE OUTBREAK

Altogether 820 houses were burned down and 5,000 rendered homeless by a fire at a town in Toyama district, 180 miles north-west of Tokyo, says Reuter from the Japanese capital

SOVIET TO SUPPLY BELGIUM

An agreement by which Russia will supply Belgium in the next 12 months with very substantial quantities of wheat and fats, was reached in Moscow yesterday, Reuter learns in London.

This agreement, presumably reached with German approval, will go far towards meeting the food shortage in Belgium, which is suffering more than any other western country.

The Russo-Belgian agreement is held in British authoritative circles as justifying the official view that the blockade must be applied to enemy-occupied countries, firstly because the responsibility of feeding them is Germany's, and secondly, because British firmness evidently resulted in the Russo-Belgian agreement, which deprives Germany of supplies which she otherwise would have had.

It is understood that Belgium in return will supply Russia with engineering products.—Reuter.

TO BANISH WASTE IN THE ARMY

To seek out and eliminate waste in the use of food and stores in the hands of the troops will be the chief job of Major-General J. Buckley, D.S.O.

His appointment by the War Office as a Controller-General of Economy under the Quartermaster-General of the Forces har been announced.

Another of his tasks will be to investigate the possibility of abandoning the high standard of material which has made British products world-famous in favour of less costly materials without sacrificing efficiency.

Major-General Buckley's reputation as an efficiency expert is international.

BIG FRENCH HOTEL FIRE

A fire destroyed the Grand Hotel Britannia at Carnac Plage, near Lorient, the official German news agency stated quoting a message from Paris.—Reuter.

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DISCORD IN JAPAN GROWS AS

ARMY DRAGS NATION NEAR TO WAR

(This is the second of six uncensored articles appearing in the "Manila Bulletin" on the Pacific "war of nerves" as seen from within Japan by an American observer).

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, Japan has presented a facade of solidarity before the world to hide a bitter and almost continuous internal division.

The cleavage between the "military mind" and the "international mind" is even sharper to-day as the islands stand on the edge of a decision that may mean erasure of the Japanese empire.

Despite the expressions of intense loyalty and patriotism which pour endlessly out of Tokyo, despite the discord is one of the major reasons why army extremists have stalked out a claim on the rich areas of southeastern Asia and the South Seas.

The decision has become greater as the army drags the nation closer to war with the United States, a war which so-called conservative elements in the islands believe would reduce Japan to beggary.

But, paradoxical as it may seem, if such a war occurs Japan probably would become completely united for the first time since the dictators of the Shogunate.

The "emergency period" within Japan began in 1931 when Kwangtung and Korean division officers precipitated the Manchurian incident without troubling to notify Tokyo beforehand. This was the "big putsch" by the "younger officers" to give the army political mastery of Japan through imperialism.

The campaign continued through subsequent clashes in China, leading to the outbreak of the China affair in July 1937. The army rode high during the first two years of that war.

Historic Urge

Now, these officers are looking toward further conquests, despite the risks involved in a South Seas campaign and in disregard of continuing China warfare. There are a variety of political and economic factors impelling the "southward march," in addition to Japan's historic urge for empire.

Not the least of these is the army's desire to gloss over its failures in China and to maintain its domestic control by diverting public attention toward a new field. The navy would be forced to undertake the hazardous southern campaign. The navy also must assume responsibility for defending Japan proper.

Success in new imperialism would indirectly benefit the army, which originated the drive "to obtain the raw materials which nature denied our islands." Failure is something the "military mind" never contemplates.

The situation, of course, has intensified the traditional rivalry between the army and the navy, which has existed since the Restoration, when officers of the two services were drawn from rival clans. Furthermore, the navy on the whole is more intelligent, more widely travelled and more alert to the tremendous risks involved in any push southward.

Navy Acts As Brake

The navy, so far, has applied a partial brake to the vigorous expansionist schemes of the more radical army officers, primarily because fleet leaders dread war with the United States.

In this, the navy has the active support of more conservative army officers in Tokyo, a substantial section of powerful industrial figures, and more cautious bureaucrats, including Premier Prince Funimaro Konoye. Surprisingly enough, the latter group is often supported by the brilliant but ambitious and unpredictable foreign minister—Yosuke Matsuoka.

This does not mean that all naval officers advocate restraint. The fleet originated the "southward scheme" many years ago, sensing that the South Seas presented a richer field than Manchuria, where the army was interested. The 1931 coup turned Japan northward and delayed the southern plan until the present, when it is impracticable although possibly essential.

Eye On U.S.

The fleet's reluctance to act now is based on a sincere regard for the American navy's prowess, plus the belief that Russia would take advantage of the situation to attack the islands, which the navy is pledged to defend.

Navy discipline is excellent. So the entire service conforms when the Tokyo staff officers agree on a policy, regardless of whatever arguments may have been provoked previously while plans were under discussion. At present, the navy seems decided upon assistance to the army in consolidating positions in French Indo-China and in moving cautiously against Great Britain, through Thailand and by a constant threat against Hong Kong. That they want to avoid immediate friction with the United States is underlined by the fact that the bulk of the fleet's striking power is now in Japanese waters, off Kyushu island, for "manoeuvres."

The army comes from a different strain. Its officers for the most part are educated in Japan and Germany, whereas the navy travels to Britain and the United States. Army officers accept Prussianism as the modern equivalent of the vastly overrated code of the old samurai, or two-sword feudal mercenaries.

Discipline in the Japanese army is shockingly bad. Tokyo has comparatively little control over staff headquarters in Nanking and Hsinking, which in turn can hold field officers in check only in proportion to the personal prestige of the respective commanders in chief. Moreover, there is no unity between the north and south China armies, or between those units and the crack Kwangtung army in Manchukuo.

Nomonhan Mess

This situation is exemplified by a multitude of examples, including of course the Manchurian incident. More recently was the mess precipitated by the Kwangtung army when it led itself into a disastrous defeat at Nomonhan in 1939, against Tokyo orders. The "peaceful" entry in Indo-China last year cost hundreds of lives because field officers refused at first to obey the orders of General Nishihara, Tokyo's negotiator at Hanoi.

This "dual government" has been a major impediment to improvement of American-Japanese relations. Army units or individual officers act independently in China, and Tokyo must back them up or "lose face."

The laughably impotent foreign office and even the Tokyo war ministry are powerless to assure Washington that there will be any improvement in the China situation. The United States must, of course, deal with Tokyo. But, while platitudes are mouthed during diplomatic negotiations, irresponsible officers contravene them by their actions in the field.

The most flagrant example of this occurred early in 1940 when America and Japan had made the greatest strides toward improved relations since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war precipitated in hundreds of "cases" upon which Washington demanded settlement. Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, now ambassador to Washington, was foreign minister. He represented the pro-American faction which still believes that friendship with the United States is essential for Japan's continued international life.

As first proof of his good intention, Admiral Nomura promised reopening of the Yangtze river, as far as Hankow. To Americans it was only a minor concession, but to the Japanese it was a great retrogressive step to demonstrate the islands' sincere desire for friendship.

Although there was considerable optimism in Tokyo after this promise, relations were not improved and the cabinet fell on its inability to solve American issues. Diplomats and Admiral Nomura knew the river would never be reopened, even as a gesture. The reason: Army officers were making too much money by running their transports as monopolistic cargo boats.

Army extremists are not only greedy and ambitious but they are notoriously bigoted. Throughout Japan's modern history they have consistently underrated their enemies; the record shows that the Russo-Japanese war might have been lost if President Roosevelt had not intervened. The army underestimated China and completely misjudged the Soviet at Nomonhan. Incidentally, in that highly important battle German mechanized units were tried out for the first time on the Russians' side.

Now the army has underestimated the United States; both her power and, until lately, her willingness to fight. Egged on by their Nazi friends, the extremists are willing to risk war in furtherance of their own schemes and to protect their own position. Backing them are likeminded businessmen; the carpetbaggers who have made money in Manchukuo through monopolistic enterprises and who are trying to do the same in north China. From the people they draw the easily swayed superpatriots.

Swept On Tide

In opposition is the present government, an admitted minority which is held in power by the influence of Prince Konoye's position as a member of one of Japan's great families. An influential industrial group supports the government while fighting the army's schemes for planned economy as a major step toward totalitarian control. These are the pro-American businessmen who realise that profits would be most stable through friendship with China and who also realise Japan's economic ties with the United States.

The government itself is being swept along by the constant encroachments of the Nazi-minded military men.

He has opposed the creation of a single party based on the Nazi system, but the drive lately has been renewed. His ministers met defeat in an attempt to absolutely control industry, but now a campaign is under way which will accomplish virtually the same purpose.

Foreign Minister Matsuoka himself termed this domestic fight as a conflict between imperialists and the elements which do not want "conquest, exploitation and oppression." He added, "upon its outcome depends the fate of the Japanese empire."

Conservatives see only one solution to this situation -- an outright army dictatorship. This alone, they say, would enable Tokyo to control its men in the field, because then an acknowledged army government would be forced to assume responsibility for mistakes abroad. These mistakes now are attributed not to the army, but to the helpless civilians behind it.

The army, however, has refused until now to be drawn into such a position. Obviously, the domestic battle will include in the future an intensified attempt to force them into the forefront. Shrewd politics may accomplish the trick, but even the conservatives are not optimistic.

EVEN IN JAPAN, THE PEOPLE HOLD THE FINAL KEY TO THE SITUATION. THEY ARE STIRRING NOW.

U.S. COAL MINES TO RE-OPEN

Most of the closed soft coal mines in the United States will reopen soon following an announcement yesterday that the United Mineworkers, the Congress of Industrial Organisations and the coal operators had reached an agreement in the dispute over wages.—Reuter.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

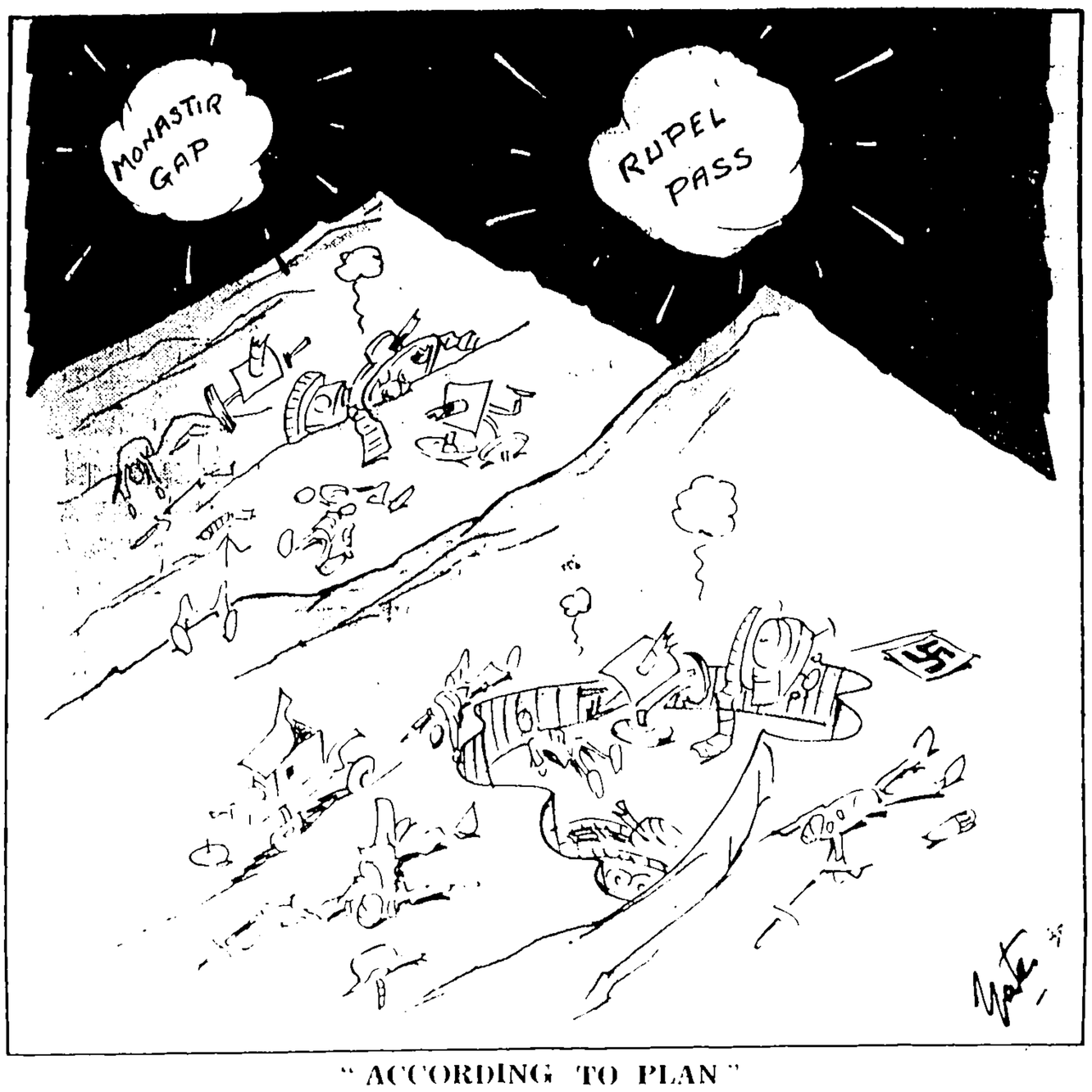
THE LIBYAN CAMPAIGN

Reports from Libya are somewhat confused, largely because of German propaganda put out and twisted in order to obscure the actual facts and to create uncertainty in people's minds. The Germans claim to have cut off the British in Tobruk, while some agencies have gone so far as to circulate a stupid report that Tobruk was encircled From a prestige point of view, the German neck-or-nothing dash is exceedingly annoying but there is no reason to doubt the ability of the British and Imperial Forces to cope with the situation. The latest Cairo reports show that the position now is stabilised and that an attempt by the Germans to tackle the British forces on their chosen ground would be welcomed.

From a military point of view, Germany's dash across Libya is more spectacular than valuable. The German forces have been unopposed and the desert, "being", as one writer expresses it, "like the ocean," it makes little or no difference where battles take place. Hitler undertook this forceful diversion because he cannot afford a further setback in any form- whether diplomatic or military. He must at all costs continue to inject the doctrine of invincibility into the minds of his subjects, and he was wily enough to realise that the comparatively weak position of the British forces in Libya due to the withdrawal of large forces for Greece, gave him an opportunity to stage a "show."

The Germans at home need something of a reassuring nature. They are reported to be seriously disquieted by the outbreak of war in the Balkans, the heavy bombing of Berlin, and Russia's disapproval of Hitler's diplomacy, and were undoubtedly in urgent need of some stimulation by successful enterprise. Obviously, too, the revival of the war in Libya obliges General Wavell to maintain forces strong enough to defend the Egyptian frontier, thus hindering the dispatch of reinforcements to Greece.

The most deadly weapon that Hitler has exploited hitherto, however, is the spreading rumours, to create doubt and uncertainty. In this instance unless checked, the mendacious reports on the acknowledged advance made by the Germans might easily be construed as a heavy defeat for the British. This is far from the case. The utmost confidence is placed in General Wavell's management of affairs. The fall of Massawa has turned the Red Sea into a supply channel, sufficiently secure for President Roosevelt to announce that American vessels can carry war materials as far as Ismailia. The convoy position in that important area has, in consequence, been relieved, all of which not only shows that the Italian position in East Africa is irretrievably lost, but that, in spite of anything Hitler can now do, supplies can pass up the Red Sea to reinforce the British position in Greece and elsewhere.



"ACCORDING TO PLAN"

Trail Of The Raiders

By Hanson W. Baldwin

German surface and U-boat forces are now at sea in the Atlantic in the greatest concentration since the beginning of the war, and the fleet of German raiders are blazing a trail of sunk, burning ships across the Atlantic. The last seven destroyers are operating in the Atlantic.

It was recently announced by Admiral in Brest of the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau that German battleships had been operating for out in the Atlantic and that menace under the sea to Great of the ubiquitous

The "Spring "Blitz" at sea has started and at sea as in the air the Germans are beginning to throw their full strength into the attempt -a desperate and bitter and definitive attempt to crush Britain this year.

The sea war is no longer merely a question of U-boats and scattered surface raiders; Adolf Hitler is beginning to use the bulk of his navy as he did in Norway to achieve his objective, and if

Warships Are Added

For about 140 U-boat operating bases from French port[illegible] one-third of them at sea at any one time), to perhaps three to a dozen armed merchant raiders operating in widely separated parts of the world, to a menace of mines and the threat of long-range bombers Germany has now added surface men-of-war. These ships, like the submarine, are believed to be based mainly on French ports, but can find refuge and fuel and supplies in any one of more than fifty ports scattered along the coast of Western Europe.

Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, sister ships, are modern 26,000-ton vessels with 11-inch main batteries, and although they have high speed, perhaps 29 knots, they cannot properly be called battle cruisers, since they are very heavily protected by armour. They are more than a match for any ship in the British Navy except a capital ship and they have higher speed than any British battleship, excepting the new ships of the King George V class. Only the three British battle cruisers, Hood, Repulse and Renown, have a clear "edge" on the Scharnhorst class in both speed and gun power.

Protection Is Complicated

With such ships operating against supply routes the British problem of protecting convoys has been enormously complicated. The British have been forced in recent weeks to utilise battleships to escort their principal convoys.

In addition to the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau the Germans are using cruisers and probably some destroyers against British trans-Atlantic routes and the raiders have probably cruised to within a few hundred miles of Newfoundland.

Despite losses in the Norwegian campaign the German Navy has at least seven cruisers—and probably several more—available for service, and it is likely that three or four of these and twenty or

New Ships Reported

In addition to these Lap Germany probably has two French armed battleships of the Bismarck class and two powerful aircraft carrier almost ready to act in service. These new ships will certainly be heard from later in the war, and though the two Bismarcks may be kept in the North Sea area to "contain" certain units of the British Fleet, one or both of the carriers might be unleashed on the routes of trade.

This kind of assault, dangerous enough even to the date of its present progress, has implications of peril for Britain if it is developed to the fullest possible extent. It is an assault that cannot be parried except by ships and more ships for convoy protection duty. It is an assault that cannot be prevented, common assumption to the contrary, by the British blockade.

Blockade Job Is Difficult

For no navy, no matter how powerful, can maintain an air-tight blockade. The British Navy's job to day is incomparably greater and more difficult than in the World War; never before, at least in the days of steam and the 'plane, has it had to blockade a continent.

The German surface men-of-war possess the same advantage as the German air force—numerous and widely scattered bases. From Narvik to Bordeaux German ships can pop in and out of ports like a fox from a hollow log. The British Navy even aided by aerial reconnaissance, simply cannot cover all these ports effectively, and periodic bombing of those in range are at best a detriment, not a cure.

The sea must be combed for the raiders, but more important, all convoys, not only a special few, must be heavily protected by battleships, by cruisers, by destroyers, escort vessels and 'planes to guard against the triple threat of assault from beneath, from above and from on the surface.

This is the crux of the British supply problem.

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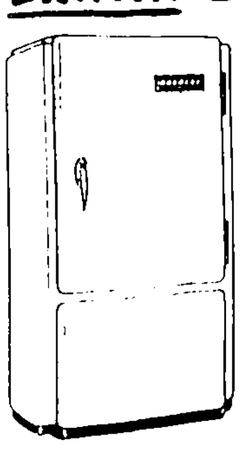

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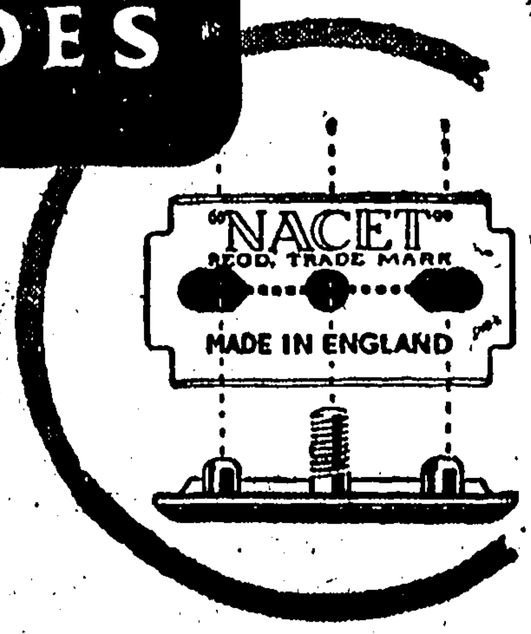

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GERMAN ARMY HELD IN SOUTH SERBIA BY R.A.F. EXPLOIT

THE GERMAN ARMY IS HELD IN THE CENTRE OF SOUTHERN SERBIA AS A RESULT OF THE SUCCESSFUL BOMBING BY THE R.A.F. OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE VARDAR RIVER AT VERLES.

The story of how hell-diving British bombers carried out this hazardous task shows that the exploit ranks with other epic attacks on strategic points in this war such as that on the bridge at Maestricht. In one respect it differs from similar feats of heroism as all the British aircraft returned safely.

The British pilots knew when they took off for the night raid that the bridge at Verles was a communications key in southern Serbia and would be strongly defended.

Searchlights stabbed the sky and German AA batteries hurled explosives into the sky when the British 'planes arrived over the target, but not one attacking bomber was even scratched.

One pilot ran the gauntlet four times before he was satisfied that his bombs could be released with the greatest effect.

Havoc Among Tanks

His stick of bombs struck the bridge and demolished it and a second fell on the adjacent railway line, while incendiary bombs set fire to surrounding buildings.

The other British aircraft when they arrived found the bridge already cut and promptly bombed Nazi armoured vehicles which had been brought to a standstill — Reuter.

SHANGHAI DOLLAR PROBLEM

Despite the reported improvement in the political atmosphere in Shanghai following the proposed reorganisation of the S.M.C., banking circles in London do not expect any improvement in the Shanghai dollar in the near future.

Notwithstanding official reassurances the feeling persists in London that it would be foolish for the Chinese Stabilisation Fund to lend active support to the Shanghai dollar until the political and military situation is clarified. Reuter.

NORWEGIAN COAST RAID

The Norwegian Admiralty in London yesterday revealed the name of the place on the Norwegian coast which was successfully raided last Saturday.

It was Oek Fjord, near Hammerfest.

The statement adds that the object of the raid was to destroy the fish oil factory, the output of which was being taken by Germany and which was of great importance in the manufacture of explosives.

All machinery in the factory was destroyed.

There was no interference from German troops, aircraft or warships.—Reuter.

U.S. SHIP STOPPED BY RAIDER

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stopped two days out of Lisbon by a ship believed to be a German raider, the American Export liner "Cambion" has arrived in New York with 189 passengers on board, of whom 75 were American.—International News Service.

GOVT. TO RETAIL RICE

To improve the local rice situation and at the same time to curb the activities of unscrupulous rice dealers, Government has imported a large quantity of rice which will be made available directly to the general public within a day or two.

The price of Government rice has been fixed at $14.23 (wholesale) and $14.50 (retail) per picul, this being lower than the standard price fixed by the Controller of Food.

The rice which Government has imported is of the best quality and any member of the public wishing to purchase a few bags, may do so by applying to the offices of the Food Controller in the Exchange Building where delivery orders will be issued.

Dr. Dafoe Operated On

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

IT WAS REVEALED IN NORTH BAY (ONTARIO) YESTERDAY THAT DR. A. R. DAFOE, THE QUINTS' SURGEON, UNDERWENT A MAJOR OPERATION IN TORONTO.

His brother, Dr. W. A. Dafoe, said his condition was satisfactory and his chances good, though a blood transfusion had to be given him.—International News Service.

RICKENBACKER ON WAY TO HEALTH

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was announced in Atlanta yesterday that Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, the American World War ace, who was critically injured in a 'plane crash six weeks ago, will probably leave hospital before the end of next month.—International News Service.

R.A.F. GIVES NO RESPITE

AN R.A.F. Middle East communique records widespread successful operations in the Mediterranean theatres of war. It states: "Cyrenaica — considerable damage and confusion was caused to enemy troops and motor transport concentrations in the El Adem — Tobruk — Bardia area by constant air action on the part of aircraft of the R.A.F. and R.A.A.F.

The enemy was given little respite. Our bombers raided throughout the day while fighters on patrol took every opportunity of carrying out machine-gun attacks.

Four Junkers 52's were intercepted over Capuzzo by Australian fighters. One was shot down immediately whereupon the remainder attempted hurried landings and crashed in doing so. They were then destroyed on the ground by machine-gun fire.

During night of April 14/15 aerodromes at Derna, Monastir and El Adem were raided, buildings, tents and hangars being destroyed. A large twinengined enemy aircraft at Monastir was wrecked by machine-gun fire and another at Derna destroyed.

The Balkans—a highly successful attack was made on shipping in Valona harbour by aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm on the night of April 14/15. A merchant ship of 6,000 tons and an ammunition ship of 7,000 tons were blown up.

Yannina Raid

Enemy aircraft attempted dive bombing attacks on Piraeus harbour. Slight damage was caused to R.A.F. property.

Our fighters intercepted and five Junkers 88's were shot down. Others were severely damaged and are unlikely to have returned safely to base.

The enemy also raided aerodromes at Yannina, where some damage was caused.

Malta—enemy aircraft raided Malta on the night of April 14/15. The only damage was to a mental home, where one patient was was killed and nine injured.

Nothing of outstanding importance to report from other fronts.

From all the above operations all our aircraft returned safely with the exception of two bombers.—British Wireless.

FIERCE NAZI ATTACKS ON ALLIED POSITIONS

Wishful German Thinking In Break Through Rumour

THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION FROM THE GREEK OR BRITISH COMMANDS IN GREECE OF A RUMOUR DERIVED FROM GERMAN SOURCES THAT THE ALLIED LINE HAS BEEN BROKEN IN THE MOUNT OLYMPUS SECTOR AND THAT THE PLAIN OF LARISSA, IN CONSEQUENCE, HAS BEEN LAID OPEN TO THE GERMAN ADVANCE, SAYS A BRITISH WAR OFFICE COMMUNIQUE.

Heavy fighting, however, is taking place in more than one sector of the Allied line, the communique adds.

Well-informed circles in Cairo stated yesterday that operations in Greece consist mainly of "feeling forward" by the Germans, who are endeavouring to ascertain the disposition of the British forces by means of patrols.

There are no signs yet of a major attack, it was added.

The battle in Western Macedonia which began on Monday is now in full progress, Athens radio said last night.

The announcer added that the Greek army has inflicted serious losses on the Germans.

After their slight push westwards on Monday the Germans tried to make further progress on Tuesday and brought very considerable forces into play, supported by the German air force.

New Line Not Pierced

The announcer quoted a Greek Press Ministry bulletin which said: "All ordered movements of our forces in taking up their new position were effected without loss.

"British and Imperial forces, cooperating with the Greek army, succeeded in repulsing German mechanised columns at many points and inflicted considerable damage on the enemy. *"DESPITE THEIR TREMENDOUS EFFORTS THE GERMANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE AT ANY POINT TO PIERCE THE NEW GREEK LINE OF RESISTANCE.*

"While the situation on the northern Greek front is still serious there are good grounds for hope.

R.A.F. Plays Havoc

"On the Albanian front the Greeks have repulsed local Italian attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

"The R.A.F. again distinguished themselves, playing havoc with German columns on the march and heavily attacking enemy supply bases." Reuter.

ALL WILL BE WELL

In The End

"Have faith in Yugoslavia and in my son and all will be well in the end," was the message which Queen Marie of Yugoslavia gave to Reuter when interviewed yesterday in her 13th Century cottage in England.

The Queen declared King Peter took the decision to fight rather than surrender without consulting her, but his decision was not unexpected to her, seeing that he always placed his country's interests before everything.

The Queen, who was lying on a couch wrapped up in a rug, said how sorry she was that illness had prevented her being at her son's side and sharing his hardships while their country was fighting for its life.

She had been a little worried when for a week she received no news from King Peter but after Belgrade was bombed she heard he was safe and well.—Reuter.

COMPULSORY SERVICE IN MALTA

Under Malta's compulsory service scheme, a second age group 22's and 23's — will be called up on Monday.—Reuter.

PETAIN STOPS DARLAN

Marshal Petain, according to reports reaching Washington, recently thwarted Admiral Darlan when the latter attempted one of his anti-British programmes.

These reports, which are confirmed from two high sources, declare that Marshal Petain, having learned accidentally that Darlan had given orders for French Fleet units, including the battleship "Dunkerque," to be moved from North Africa to Toulon, summoned Darlan to give an explanation.

Darlan is stated to have replied evasively and then to have launched into an anti-British tirade.

Marshal Petain thereupon issued special written instructions forbidding the movement of any French warship without his prior knowledge.—Reuter.

TWO GERMAN SPEARHEADS IN GREEK THRUST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

ALTHOUGH THE GERMAN ADVANCE, CONSISTING OF TWO SPEAR-HEADS, HAS PUSHED 40 MILES INTO GREECE, THE ITALIAN TROOPS ON THE ALBANIAN FRONT WHO FOLLOWED UP THE RETIRING GREEKS SUFFERED "SERIOUS LOSSES" WHEN THE HELLENIC WARRIORS TURNED ON THE FOE IN FURIOUS REARGUARD FIGHTS.

Covered by successful counter-attacks the Greeks and British all along the northern Greek front have completed the falling back operations in perfect order to strongly fortified positions for the decisive battle of the new Olympic Line.

It was admitted in Athens that fast-moving German armoured units have reached the western outlet of the Siatista Pass, 12 miles south-west of the strategic town of Kozani.

Other Nazi units attacking another sector of the Anglo-Greek line nearby have occupied Klissura Pass, which is 20 miles north of the town of Siatista.—International News Service.

STEEL PRICES IN U.S. FIXED

An order freezing steel prices at the level that prevailed in the first quarter, has been issued by Mr Leon Anderson, American Price Administrator, says Reuter from New York.

EFFORT TO EXPORT SCRAP ALLEGED

Charged with attempting to export eight tons of scrap iron without a permit from the Controller of Trade, Lo Chung, 51, master of cargo boat No. 2721V, was remanded for 48 hours by Mr. D. J. N. Anderson at Kowloon this morning.

Bail of $500 was allowed.

No other whisky combines so rare a fragrance with such mellow smoothness; no other is quite so soft, so round, so genial. Perfect blending and slow maturing have made White Horse Whisky the equal of a fine liqueur.

The millions of gallons of finest Scotch whisky matured and maturing ensure that the quality of White Horse never varies.

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No. 1 Cures Discharges. No. 2 Cures Blood Poison. No. 3 Cures Chronic Weaknesses. English Price 5s. Chemists, or either No. return Mail. DR. LE CLERC Med. Co. Haverstock Rd., N.W.5, London.
DR. LE CLERC'S PILLS for the Liver & Kidneys—weak kidneys & bladder.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

IMMIGRATION OFFICE NOTICE

Shippers are hereby notified that, on account of this evening's black-out, there will be no examination of ship's passengers by this Office after 6 p.m. Examinations will be held as usual to-morrow.

R. A. D. FORREST,
Immigration Officer.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
FRIDAY, the 18th April, 1941
commencing at 2.30 p.m.
at their Sales Room,
No. 35, Hankow Road, Kowloon.

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

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Teakwood Drawing Room, Bed Room, Dining Room and Office Furniture, Tientsin Carpets & Rugs, Cutlery, Curios, Ornaments, Table Lamps & Fans, Gramophones & Records, E. P. Brass, Porcelain and Glass Ware, Cooking Utensils, etc., etc.

also

A Few Pieces of Blackwood Furniture

and
2 "Belgium" Carpets
2 Enamelled Baths
1 Perambulator
1 "Underwood" Portable Typewriter
1 Calculating Machine
1 Gas Stove
1 Radio-gram

On View from Thursday, the 17th April, 1941.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, 16th April, 1941.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
SATURDAY, the 19th April, 1941
commencing at 10.30 a.m.
at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central, 2nd. Floor

A Quantity of Electric Waffle Irons, Fans, Irons, Toasters, Heaters, Ovens, Burner Heads and Wicks etc., etc.

also

8400 gross Shoe Laces
2 dozen "Avon" Fountain Pens
2 dozen "Avon" Fountain Pen and Pencil combination
1 Bag Sulphate of Ammonia
37 pieces Old Rubber Tyres
1 Fairbank Platform Scale
1 Case Celluloid Tooth Brush Cases

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, 16th April, 1941.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
TUESDAY, the 22nd April, 1941
commencing at 5.15 p.m.
at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central, 2nd. Floor.

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE COLLECTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, 16th April, 1941.

THE----
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BRIDGE NOTES

A FINE POINT
By The Four Aces

North had to make a very close choice in the bidding of to-day's hand:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable

	♠ K Q J 6 ♡ 7 6 3 2 ◇ 10 8 5 ♣ 10 8	
♠ 9 7 4 2 ♡ A K Q 8 ◇ 4 ♣ 6 2	N W E S	♠ A 8 5 ♡ J 10 9 5 ◇ A 7 3 ♣ 5 4 2
	♠ 10 3 ♡ — ◇ K Q J 9 4 ♣ A K Q J 9 3	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♡	Pass	Pass
3◇	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

North knew that South's bid of three diamonds indicated a five-card suit. And South had to hold six clubs, since he had bid clubs before showing the diamonds. So North could show a preference for either suit and still be sure of having eight trumps in the combined hands. But North chose clubs because he knew that South would be forced to ruff hearts as often as he gave the opponents the lead; and a six-card trump suit would survive the "punches" better than a five-card trump suit.

HIGH CARD VALUES OF THE FOUR-ACES SYSTEM
ACE ... 3
KING .. 2
QUEEN 1
JACK ... ½
TOTAL VALUE OF HAND
AVERAGE HAND 10

North was quite right, of course, for South made his contract of five clubs but could not have made five diamonds! West led a heart, and South ruffed and drew three rounds of trumps. He then led the diamonds, knocking out East's Ace. A heart return brought South down to one trump, but that was enough to allow the setting up of a spade trick.

Now examine the play at five diamonds. The opening lead reduces South to four trumps. South must knock out the diamond Ace, and then another heart lead reduces his trumps to the same number as East's. It takes all of South's trumps, therefore, to clear the suit so that he can cash the clubs. And then South never succeeds in setting up a spade, since East's last two cards are the spade Ace and a good heart.

* * *

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents, you held:

♠ 6
♡ A J 9 4
◇ K Q 8 3
♣ Q 10 7 5

The bidding:

Jacoby.	Maier	You	Schenken
1♠	2♣	(?)	

ANSWER: Double. Your hand should take about two club tricks, and about two or three tricks in hearts and diamonds. If your partner has fair defensive strength, you should do well against two clubs, even without being able to make a game of your own.

Score 100% for double, 30% for two diamonds or two hearts, 20% for two no-trump.

Question No. 692

To-day you hold the same hand, but the bidding is:

Jacoby	Maier	You	Schenken
1♡	2♣	(?)	

What do you bid? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

JAPANESE DROP BOMB ON OWN FIELD

FIVE JAPANESE MILITARY AIRMEN WERE BLOWN TO BITS AND TWO BOMBERS WERE DESTROYED IN AN ACCIDENT AT THE JAPANESE-OCCUPIED HANOI AIR FIELD, AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN REPORTED IN SAIGON.

The accident occurred when a third Japanese bomber, departing for a bombing expedition to south-west China, flew over the Hanoi field and unintentionally dropped a demolition bomb in the middle of the sleeping camp.

HUGE R.F.C. LOAN TO B.A.T.

Mr. Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, announced in Washington yesterday that a $40,000,000 loan has been granted to the Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corporation.

This, he said, was "in line with the policy of the U.S. Government to require the liquidation of British-owned American investments for the purpose of providing funds for the purchase of supplies in this country."

Brown and Williamson's will apply $15,000,000 to liquidate domestic indebtedness and will turn over the remainder to the parent company, the British-American Tobacco Co., which in turn will hand this sum to the British Government to pay for purchases of war materials.

Mr. Jones said the net proceeds of the loan were estimated to be what the net realisable sum would be to the British owners if these investments in the U.S. were sold outright or the companies liquidated.

First Instance

This is the first instance of aid by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the liquidation of British investments.

The B.A.T. retains its ownership in all Brown and Williamson stock, which is being pledged with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as security.—Reuter.

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN BADLANDS

A Chinese was shot dead and another seriously wounded early this morning in a terrorist shooting in the Shanghai "badlands."

The outrage is reported to have occurred in a dormitory occupied by Bank of China employees, and is believed to be a reprisal for the shooting of an employee of the Central Reserve Bank yesterday. —Reuter.

MR. EDEN GIVES A LUNCHEON

MR. ANTHONY EDEN, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, GAVE A LUNCHEON IN LONDON IN HONOUR OF MR. QUO TAI-CHI, THE RETIRING CHINESE AMBASSADOR.

The following accepted invitations:—Dr. Chen Wei-cheng, Dr. Kuo Ping-wen, Captain Lung Yung-hsien, Major Chen Pin-kai, Mr. R. A. Butler, Mr. C. R. Attlee, Mr. L. S. Amery, Sir Archibald Sinclair, Sir Alexander Cadogan and Sir Frederick Leith-Ross.—Reuter.

WAR MATERIALS IN ITALIAN SHIPS

Certain war materials have been found on board some of the Italian ships in Mexican harbours which have been taken over by the Mexican Government.

This was disclosed yesterday by the officer in charge of Mexican units now controlling the vessels. Exact nature of the materials was not disclosed.—Reuter.

MR. HEINZ IS DEAD

Mr. Howard Heinz, the canned food "king" has died at Pittsburgh U.S., aged sixty-three. In 1900 he entered the food manufacturing business established by his father. Appointed sales manager in 1905, he became president of the H. J. Heinz Company in 1919.—Reuter.

Young love is just a rosy dream until old man finance sticks his nose in—then it begins to be one long nightmare.

CHUNGKING AIR RAID DEVICE

A review of the Chungking Air Raid Corps took place yesterday morning. More than 4,500 members carrying all forms of air raid relief equipment participated.

Mr. Ku Chen-kang, Minister of Social Welfare and concurrently Captain of the Corps, addressed the gathering.

It is learned that the Chungking Air Raid Defence Headquarters has invented a new device showing the movements of enemy 'planes as an additional air raid precaution in Chungking. The device is made of a wooden board, on which is drawn a map of the provinces of Szechwan, Shensi, Hupeh, Hunan and Kweichow with Chungking as centre. The distance of every 50 kilometres is indicated with a red and green circle. Small tracks are run through these circles to which are affixed tiny aeroplanes that can freely move about. Thus by looking at the device the residents will know how far the enemy 'planes are from Chungking.

The device will be installed at all important approaches throughout the municipality of Chungking. — Central News.

NAVICERTS FOR FRENCH SHIPS

Two French ships provided with British navicerts are leaving New York to-day for Marseilles with 13,500 tons of United States flour for unoccupied France. — Reuter.

HEARTBURN
caused by too much acid.

Your stomach makes natural acid to digest your food. It is when there is *too much* acid that stomach trouble begins. Then you get "acid symptoms"—heartburn, flatulence, "sourness."

Heed the warning in time by taking that saving dose, or two of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder and you need never become a chronic stomach sufferer.

Unlike violent antacids (which can so easily rob you of Nature's acid, causing new symptoms), Maclean Brand Stomach Powder regulates Nature's supply. It keeps right your "digestive balance."

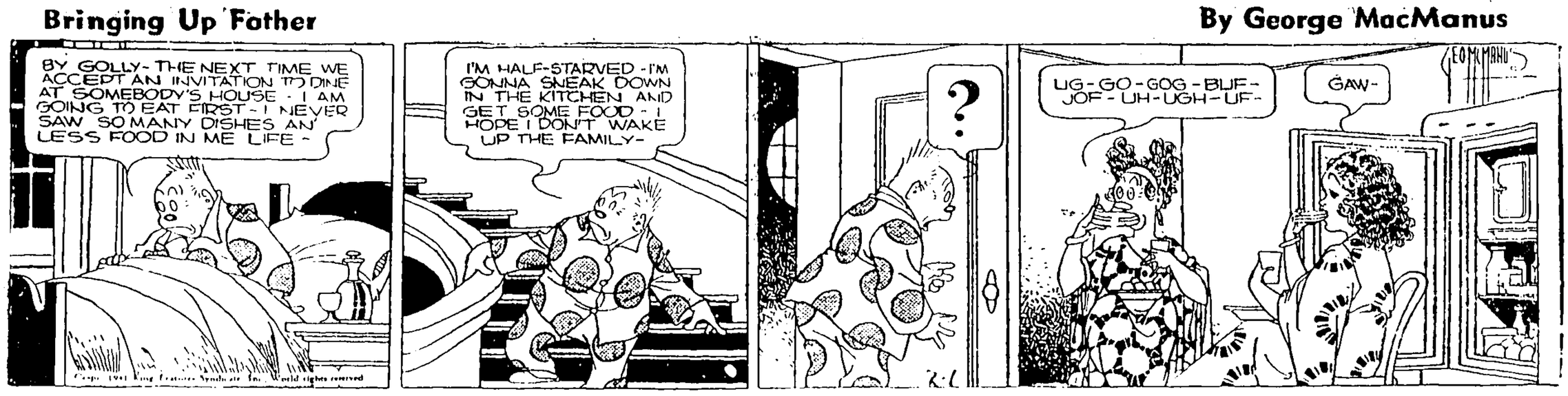
Even if you happen to suffer from pain after meals, or from that unnatural hunger before meals, a course of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder will bring correction to your digestion. Thousands are taking it; doctors are prescribing it; many operations for serious cases of stomach ulcer have been avoided.

MACLEAN BRAND Stomach Powder has the signature "ALEX. C. MACLEAN" always on bottle and carton.

Maclean Brand Stomach Powder is never sold loose, but only in bottles. The tablets are available in bottles or flat tins.

If you have any difficulty in obtaining it from your local chemist, or store write to:—Banker & Co., P. O. Box 739, Hong Kong.

Bringing Up Father **By George MacManus**



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Want to Shake the Blues?

We've experience an occasional and when life seems pretty unattractive. We get the blue We yearn for a change or something to give your spirits fillip. And unfortunately, we find a change isn't possible at that time nor is there anything to do but go on living, but we can go on living with more beauty!

There is no better tonic for a woman's dejected spirit than a thorough grooming an enhancing of her beauty.

A MASQUE FOR YOU. After a perfumed rubbing and a good skin scrubbing with a brush and soap, wrap yourself in a warm robe (so as not to catch cold), tie up your hair, and apply a velvety, peach-coloured cream masque. The one I'm thinking of used to be kept in reserve for special salon facials, but any woman can now buy it in a little jar. While this wonder cream is making your face skin more beautiful, tackle your nails.

A BRAND NEW NAIL KIT which boasts a patriotic middy collar as a cover, contains all you need for home nail grooming. And when you buy it remember you have a choice of any of the latest polish shades. Select one which flatters your hands and then your fingers will feel capable and smart in their new dress. After the manicure it's time for you to remove the masque and freshen your face with splashes of clear, cold water, or chilled skin tonic. Put on fresh undies (which I trust are scented with sachet), your favourite dress and slippers. Then sit yourself down before your mirror and get busy with your head! Tie a protecting cape around your shoulders and brush and comb your hair into as pretty a coiffure as your fingers can fashion. Then you are ready for the make-up session.

Speaking about make-up it's time to buy new. I want to acquaint you with a jaunty little military cap of metallic blue which boasts four new make-up aids—a huge lipstick in a bright new shade, cream rouge, nail polish to harmonise, and an especially blended powder for pre-spring beauty. There they are—new, exciting, inspiring. After using them your face should look like spring feels — fresh, young, and romantic!

Now you are ready for a date. If you haven't one to look forward to, pick up the telephone, and in your sweetest, surest voice, get yourself one! Spring is only around the corner, and the men you know are getting an urge to snap out of their winter lethargies too.

Regimental chic is the order of the day and young things are adoring this smart middy collar nail kit which offers a choice of polish shades.

EAT AT—

JIMMY'S

INEXPENSIVE SATISFYING

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FIRST FLOOR

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.

"Unlovely Rubber Tire"

A so-called "rubber tire," my dears, indicates that you are lazy. You simply do not exercise enough, or the exercise you take is not the right sort to keep your midriff slim.

Diet helps some, in reducing this roll of excess flesh, but it truly does require specific exercise or professional massage taken regularly, to banish it effectively.

Now no woman likes that midriff bulge. A girdle or corset only makes it more pronounced for they push the flesh up as they flatten the hips and buttocks. No dress, or suit or bathing suit can be becoming or chic if you have a rubber tire. If you have, why not resolve right now to get rid of it?

What To Do

The primary step is to correct your posture. You simply must force yourself to stand up erectly with your abdomen pulled in, and your shoulders back but relaxed. Two things which will help you do this is to feel your shoulders broaden, as you push them back and down, and to feel yourself grow tall when you pull in your abdomen and tuck under your buttocks. Practice before a mirror until you get the right feel of correct, easy posture.

Perhaps too, you need a new supporting brassiere. Take time to be fitted well there are so many good models now on the market that you are certain to find one that is comfortable, supporting and which makes your bustline more lovely.

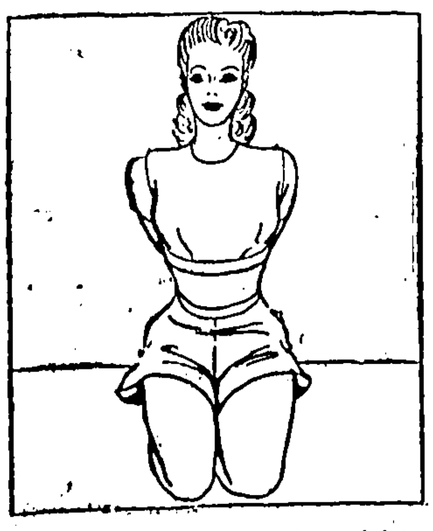
After you have mastered good posture and bought your undergarment, set aside at least twenty minutes each day to exercise. For five minutes practice this:

Lie flat on the floor, arms overhead in relaxed position. Forcefully pull your abdomen in and back toward your spine. Once you get those muscles to respond you will feel your abdomen move in and then slightly up. Relax. Pull in again. Relax. Then stand up in good posture and practice the same movement for five minutes more.

For the remaining ten minutes practice the exercise illustrated to-day. Kneel on floor, pull abdomen in and up, stretch arms out behind you and clasp hands.

Now keeping your head back where it belongs and leading with your chin, bend forward arching your back and letting your clasped hands move as high as possible. YOU MUST KEEP YOUR ABDOMEN IN! Return to original kneeling position and repeat.

This is splendid for firming the abdominal muscles, limbering the back and banishing that abhorred rubber tire!



Kneeling in good position, with abdomen in, arms behind.

Bend forward, chin leading, arms raised in back.

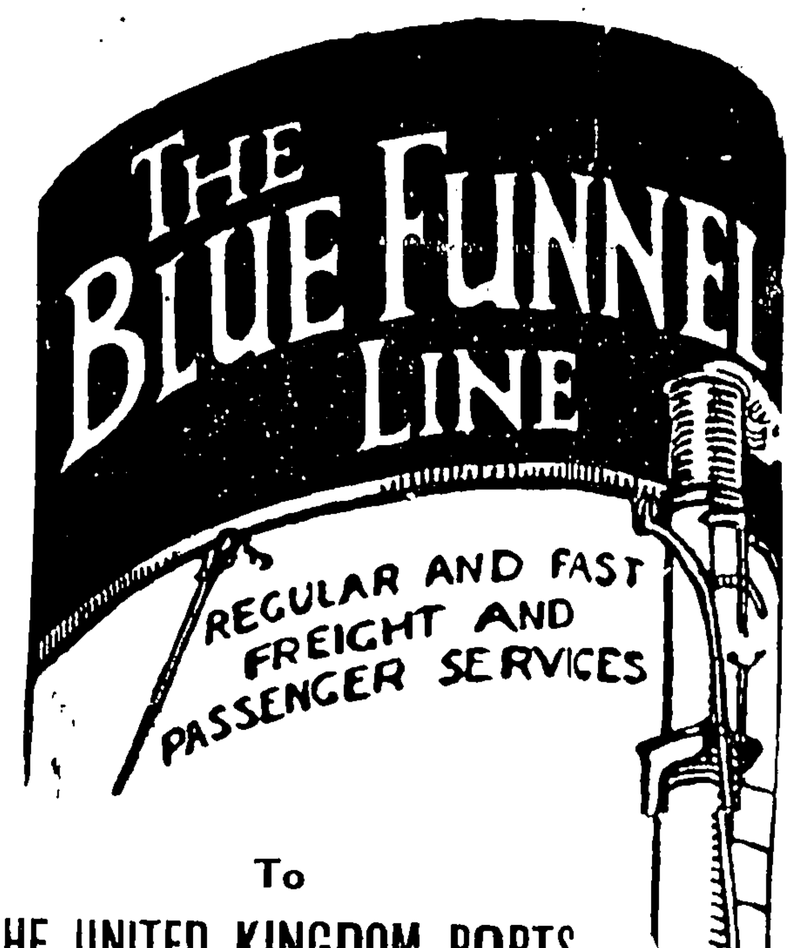
OFF THE RECORD **By ED REED**

"Just because I'm paying you two cents a word you don't have to put in all the 'bang bangs' of the machine-gun fight!"

Here's Luck

EWO BEER

Tel. 30311



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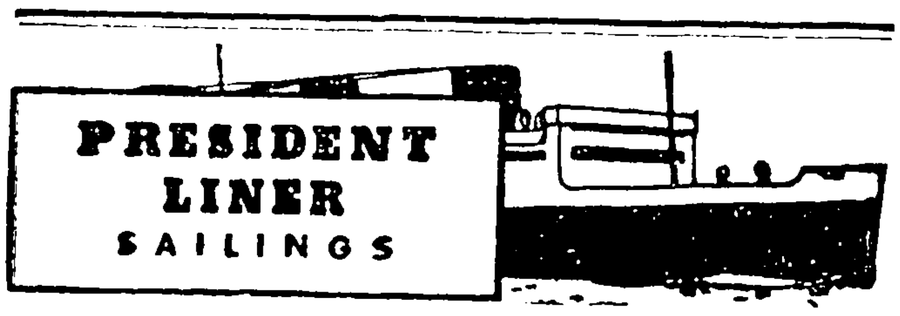

PRESIDENT LINER SAILINGS

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S.S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE	April	21
S.S. "PRESIDENT PIERCE"	May	2
S.S. "PRESIDENT TAFT"	May	16

TO NEW YORK and BOSTON
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S.S. "PRESIDENT HAYES"	May	4
*S.S. "PRESIDENT TYLER"	May	12
S.S. "PRESIDENT GARFIELD"	May	18

TO MANILA

S.S. "PRESIDENT PIERCE"	April	26
S.S. "PRESIDENT TAFT"	May	8
S.S. "PRESIDENT CLEVELAND"	May	21

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via San Francisco, Los Angeles and Panama

*S.S. "PRESIDENT JOHNSON"	May	8
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RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 p.m.—Excerpts from Ivor Novello's Shows.
Careless Rapture—Selection Geraldo & his Orchestra.
Glamorous Night—The Girl I Knew Elisabeth Welch with Orch
The Dancing Years- I Can Give You the Starlight -Waltz. Waltz of My Heart- Waltz. New Mayfair Dance Orchestra My Dearest Dear Mary Ellis & Ivor Novello My Life Belongs to You Dunstan Hart & Mary Ellis with Ivor Novello at the piano

1.00 p.m. Local Time Signal.

1.01 p.m. New Mayfair Dance Orchestra.

Fox-Trot Music Hath Charms (from the film). Slow Fox-Trot- Honey Coloured Moon. Quick-Step- Nursie' Nursie'. Fox-Trot Somewhere at Sea. Tango Fox-Trot Where the Cafe Lights are Gleaming. Fox-Trot Angel of the Great White Way. Novelty Fox-Trot Speedboat Bill. The Haunted House. Waltz- Lonely Sweetheart

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press and Announcements

1.45 p.m.—Compositions of Coleridge-Taylor.
"Otello"—Suite Dance from Otello; Children's Intermezzo. Funeral March; Willow Song. Military March New Symphony Orch Thou Hast Bewitched Me, Beloved, This is the Island of Gardens, Unmindful of the Roses Arthur Reckless (Baritone) & Orch Intermezzo New Light Symphony Orchestra Sons of the Sea Peter Dawson (Bass Baritone) with Orch

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations

6.32 p.m.—Variety & Dance Music.
Fox-Trots Ten Little Men from Town, Home at Sundown The Organ, the Dance Band & Me Vocal Moon over Miami Turner Layton with piano Waltz Love is All (from "It's a Date"). Fox-Trot They Call me a Dreamer Oscar Rabin & his Strict Tempo Dance Orchestra Comedienne 'Erbert 'Enery 'Epplewaite Gracie Fields Fox-Trot -Shufflin' at the Hollywood Lionel Hampton & Orchestra Vocal & Piano- One Morning in May, You Oughta Be in Pictures Derickson & Brown.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Meet Uncle Sam".

7.30 p.m.—"Fats" Waller (Organ) and His Rhythm.

Fox-Trots Anita, I Used to Love You Deep River "Fats" Waller (Organ) Fox-Trots Something Tells Me, Serontch. Lonesome Road, Water Boy "Fats" Waller (Organ solo) Fox-Trots Patty Cake, Patty Cake, Good for Nothin' But Love.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Announcements.

8.02 p.m.—Violin Solos by Albert Sandler.
Pale Moon (Indian Love Song) (Logan); Allegro (Fiocco) Jack Byfield at the Piano. Estudiantina—Waltz (Waldteufel); Dolores Waltz (Waldteufel) Sydney Ffoulkes at the piano.

8.15 p.m.—Studio—Local Newsletter.

8.30 p.m.—Keith Falkner (Baritone) & New Mayfair Orchestra.
Jerome Kern Melodies—Intro: There is a Hill Beyond a Hill; Blue Eyes; Dancing Time; Look for the Silver Lining; She did not say Yes; Whose Baby Are You; Who; Moon Love; I've told ev'ry little Star; Wild Rose New Mayfair Orchestra. San Diego Betty (film "Mayfair Melody"); Without the Moon Keith Falkner (Baritone). A Musical Comedy Switch New Mayfair Orchestra. A Song Doesn't Care (film "Mayfair Melody") Keith Falkner (Baritone). Love Tales—Intro: Love, Here is my Heart; Speak to me of Love; A Bachelor Gay; I Love Thee; Frasquita Serenade; If Winter Comes New Mayfair Orchestra.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
9.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Questions of the Hour".

9.28 p.m.—Compositions of Beethoven.
Sonata in E Flat Major, Op. 81a (Les Adieux): Adagio—Allegro—Andante espressivo — Vivacissimamente.... Arthur Schnabel—Piano solo.

Adelaide, Op. 46....Jussi Bjorling (Tenor) with piano.
Romance in F Op. 50....Paul Kaul (violin solo with piano).

9.45 p.m.—News in French (on Short Wave only).
10.00 p.m.—London Relay—"To Talk of Many Things".
10.15 p.m.—Verdi's "Aida" Ballet Suite and Act III.
Ballet Suite....Boston Promenade Orchestra conducted by Arthur Fiedler.
Aida Act III—Characters and Soloists in order of appearance: Amneris, Pharoah's daughter....Maria Capuana (M-Soprano); Ramfis, High Priest....Trancredi Pasero (Bass); Aida....Arangi-Lombardi (Soprano); Amonasro, King of Ethiopa....Armando Borgioli (Baritone); Rhadames, a young warrior....Arnoldo Lindi (Tenor); with Orchestra.
11.00 p.m.—Close down.

CHINESE BANKS SUSPEND

THE FOUR CHINESE GOVERNMENT BANKS IN SHANGHAI HAVE SUSPENDED BUSINESS IN THE CITY, WHILE THE CHINA DOLLAR HAS DROPPED TO 3-3/16D.

AN OFFICIAL OF ONE OF THE BANKS TOLD REUTER THIS MORNING, "WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ALL THE GOVERNMENT BANKS WILL REOPEN FOR BUSINESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE NOTHING IS YET DEFINITE."

It is understood the banks closed down without the knowledge of Chungking following the early morning murder of two Bank of China employees as a result of the killing of a Federal Reserve Bank official.

The staffs are refusing to carry on unless assured of protection for themselves and their families.

Reuter.

JUNK FIRE IN JOSS HOUSE BAY

EARLY THIS MORNING A LARGE JUNK, CONTAINING KEROSENE, WAS STILL SMOULDERING IN JOSS HOUSE BAY AS A RESULT OF AN EXPLOSION WHICH OCCURRED ON THE JUNK AT 11.30 P.M. LAST NIGHT.

Immediately following the explosion, the junk caught fire, but the crew managed to escape to a nearby junk.

The No. 1 fire float was despatched to the scene and had the outbreak under control shortly after midnight.

The junk, though not totally destroyed, is submerged in Joss House Bay.

DESERTION CHARGE

Police Constable No. C607, Wong Yun, attached to the No. 2 Police Station, was charged before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., at the Central Magistracy this morning, with desertion from the Police Force on April 26, 1940.

Inspector Portallion told the Court that accused joined the Police Force on July 8, 1938, for a period of five years. He left on the morning of April 26, while on duty in a prison cell in the Police Station. Accused was not seen again, until his arrest in Kowloon yesterday.

Accused pleaded guilty, and said that a friend of his in the Chinese Army asked him to join a transport corps, which he did and went into the interior.

The case was adjourned until to-morrow for sentence.

TITLED BEAUTY IS HELD

Police searched the London flat of the beautiful young wife of the heir to the Earl of Effingham, Lady Howard of Effingham, who has been detained by order of the Home Secretary under Defence Regulation 18B.

At the time inquiries were being made by the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, Lady Howard was at her country house at Byfleet, Surrey.

Her London home is in Park West, a block of modern flats near Marble Arch, W. Police were there until a late hour at night, and refused to admit callers.

When a reporter spoke to the Earl of Effingham about his daughter-in-laws' detention the Earl said: "It is news to me." Asked if he would be getting into touch with his son, he said: "I shall do nothing about the matter.

"Whether she has any political interests or not I do not know. I know little about her. It is really no affair of mine."

As Miss Maria Malvin Gertler, Hungarian-born daughter of a Budapest business man, Lady Howard met her husband, Lord Howard of Effingham, at a party in 1938.

A few months later — in October, 1938 — they were married at Marylebone Register Office. The bride was then twenty-six and the groom thirty-two.

GIANT 'PLANES FOR SINGAPORE

The famous American flier, Clyde Pangbourn, who was the first to fly the Pacific from Japan to the United States, and Bert Balchen, pilot of Admiral Byrd's South Pole expedition, formed part of the crew which flew a Consolidated PBY type giant bomber from the United States to the naval base at Cavite, Philippines.

This is revealed in a despatch from the Manila correspondent of Domei who adds a second similar 'plane has arrived at Cavite and is now being prepared for transfer to the British.

The correspondent says British pilots are on the way from Singapore to take over the 'planes and fly them to the Singapore base.—Reuter.

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NAZI CONTROL FORCES ENORMOUS INFLATION UPON FRANCE

AN ANALYSIS of the latest official returns of the Bank of France, made by the newspaper "Frankfurter Zeitung," throws light on the progressive inflation in France and the reasons for this worsening of the economic situation.

On the side of assets – from March, 1940, when the figure for advances to the Government was 30 milliard francs, there was an increase to 46 milliards in June and to 146 milliards in December. Of the last sum occupation costs amounted to 72 milliards.

On the side of liabilities—note circulation rose over the same period from 156 milliards to 174 milliards in June and 218 milliards in December. In December there was also a debt to the Reichskreditkasse of 41 milliards.

Total monetary circulation, French notes, occupation mark notes and coins, rose in December to 288 milliards. (Gold assets throughout the period are given as constant at 85 milliards).

Since then, it is pointed out in London, the note circulation must have increased so that by mid-March the monetary circulation must have risen to 310 milliards.

Since advances in respect of occupation cost have risen to over 90 milliards, the conclusion to be drawn is that in 12 month to mid-March last monetary circulation rose by some 140 milliard of francs, i.e. by over 80 per cent.

Occupation Cost

About two-thirds of this inflation was due to German-levied costs of occupation and one third to Government expenditure and the failure normal revenue since the collapse of France.

For the second quarter of 1941 the Vichy Government's proposed ordinary budget has been reduced to 22,732 million francs and great play is made of the fact that this was scaled down by 1½ milliards.

The amount payable to the Germans for this quarter as cost of the occupation is 36,400 million francs.

Thus the budget for all France is only 250 millions a day compared with 400 millions a day as cost of the occupation.

German Tactics

Thus, assuming there are 1,000,000 German troops in France, Vichy has to pay out 400 Francs a day per German compared to the budgetary allowance of only six francs per day per French civilian. The sum of 400 francs is far in excess of actual cost, one reliable estimate being 125 francs.

Credit over and above without doubt goes to securing illegal German control of French industry — at the cost of France.

British Wireless.

SKY ARMY OF ALL ACES

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

Men drawn from all branches of the Army make up Britain's parachute troops. The county regiments, the Tank Corps and the Pioneer Corps are all represented.

They received intensive preparation for the job. During the first months they did not go up in a 'plane -they were given lecture after lecture on every detail of the required strategy.

Then came the physical training. Week after week they marched in full kit. They practised swimming in uniform. They did rock-climbing.

At this stage many were weeded out because they did not come up to the necessary standard of endurance.

Only the very finest, mentally and physically, would do for this new Army.

There have been thousands of volunteers.

Special Badge

You will be able to recognise Britain's paratroops whenever you meet them.

They will be wearing a special badge on the arm. It shows a white parachute with blue wings -similar to those of the R.A.F. on either side.

Last night I met the man who taught the paratroops who jumped in Italy. He made his first parachute jump him only six months ago.

But tall, slimly-built Squadron-Leader L. A. Strange, D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C., who began his flying in 1908, has always demanded action.

He soldiered during the last war as a major with the Dorsetshire Regiment. Later he was transferred to the R.F.C., became a wing-commander. Before the outbreak of the present war he was closely associated with Whitney Straight, the racing motorist and aeroplane enthusiast.

He took up his Service career again in this war as a pilot-officer, but, in the words of a colleague, "he got so fed up with the way things were moving that he went to the Air Ministry. They said, 'Right, we'll give you a job.' And they did."

Squadron-Leader Strange took to his new job of training parachute troops with zest.

"There's nothing in parachuting," Squadron-Leader Strange to'd me.

"The parachute is opened automatically and the men leave the troop-carrying 'plane according to a set drill.

"The real job before parachute troops awaits them when they get on the ground."

LEARNED TO LEAD BAND BY DIAGRAMS

TEDDY JOYCE, THE DANCE BAND LEADER, WHO COLLAPSED IN A GLASGOW HOTEL AFTER PERFORMING WITH HIS BAND, DIED IN A GLASGOW HOSPITAL LATER. IT IS STATED THAT HE WAS SUFFERING FROM SPINAL FEVER.

Joyce's real name was Edmund John Cuthbertson. He was a Canadian.

Describing how he became a dance band conductor, he once wrote: "When I was a kid I learned the fiddle seriously. Then I stiffened two fingers in a car crash and put an end to ideas of a concert career."

Eventually Joyce went to New York and developed eccentric dancing. He went to St. Louis at the age of twenty-two and was told he would have to conduct the band as well. He had no idea how to do it, but he managed it by drawing diagrams on the music.

STOCK EXCHANGE VERY QUIET

The London Stock Exchange ruled very quiet yesterday with price movements narrowly irregular and operators inclined to mark time in view of the uncertain war news. Gilt-edged and home rails tended easier but industrials mostly were well maintained and oils were steady apart from 2/6d fall in Anglo-Egyptian to 42/6. Foreign issues were easier, with declines recorded in Chinese, Japanese, Brazilian and Egyptian bonds. Wall Street was very quiet.—Reuter.

FIRST WEDDING IN CONVENT

Veronica Bryham Oliver, now twenty-two, went from South Africa to school at St. Catherine's Convent, Lauriston Gardens, Edinburgh.

At her special wish she was married in the convent chapel to Second - Lieutenant William Drummond Young, of Edinburgh. It was the first wedding ever celebrated in the convent.

The bridegroom had only twenty-four hours' leave from his Royal Artillery unit, and left for England soon after his wedding. The wedding was performed by Father Eustace Dudley.

YOUTHFUL RUSSIAN VAGRANT

A 21-YEAR-OLD RUSSIAN, GEORGE TALAVIKOFF, ALIAS GEORGE GOLDEN, WAS CHARGED BEFORE MR. G. T. LOWRY, AT THE CENTRAL MAGISTRACY THIS MORNING, WITH ENTERING THE COLONY WITHOUT A PASSPORT OR WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE IMMIGRATION OFFICER, AND WITH BEING A VAGRANT.

Detective-Sergeant Youe, of the Special Branch, said that accused arrived on an American ship as a stowaway on March 27. He gave himself up at the Registration Office yesterday and admitted he was a vagrant. Accused was sent away from the Colony in 1937 when he was destitute.

Accused was sentenced to the House of Detention, and an expulsion order was made against him.

HEAVY FINE ON WOMAN

Fines totalling $85 were imposed by Mr. D. J. N. Anderson at Kowloon this morning on Kwan Hung, 22, married woman, of No. 17 Soy Street, for keeping an unregistered "ward", Mak Mui, 11-year-old girl, and ill-treating her.

Inspector W. H. Fraser said the girl made a report at the Mongkok Police Station yesterday, alleging that she had been beaten by accused with a bamboo pole because she had spilt food during meal time.

The girl was sent to hospital and the woman was placed under arrest. The girl was presented to the woman two years ago in the country.

LOCAL SHARES

BANKS

Hong Kong Bank $1345 sa.
Bank of East Asia $70 b.

INSURANCES

Canton Ins. $222½ sa.
Union Ins. $425 b., $430s., $430 sa.

SHIPPING

Indo-Chinas (Pref.) $80 b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.

H.K. and K. Wharves $85½ b., $86 sa.
Providents $5.10 sa.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

H.K. Tramways $16½ s., $16¼ sa.
Lights Rts. .60 cts. sa.

INDUSTRIALS

H.K. Ropes $7¼ sa.

STORES, &C.

Watsons $9.80 s.

LAST DAY'S SALES

5 H.K. Banks @ $1345
35 Canton Ins. @ $222½
15 Union Ins. @ $430
50 Wharves @ $86
100 Trams @ $16¼
352 Lights Rts. @ .60 cts.
100 Ropes @ $7¼

LAUGHTER AT HIS FUNERAL

"No crying or whispering. Laugh, talk, walk around, have a good time."

By order of the dead man a sign bearing those words hung over the coffin of Dode Fisk, former circus star, when his funeral took place at Columbus, Ohio.

He ordered his executors to "start at 2.15 p.m., the time I started my circus. Want it snappy, the way I ran my circus."

16 YEARS A WARDER, GAOLED

AN INDIAN ASSISTANT PRISON WARDER, GHULAM MAHOMED, 43, WAS SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH'S HARD LABOUR BY MAJOR A. N. MACFADYEN AT KOWLOON THIS MORNING FOR A BREACH OF THE PRISON REGULATIONS.

Accused was alleged to have conveyed a letter from a prisoner, Cheung Chung, serving a sentence of four month's hard labour to relatives at No. 890, Canton Road.

Det.-Sgt. N. B. Fraser said accused went to the house with the letter in which Cheung Chung requested his relatives to hand the Indian $10 and some medicine. The family informed the police, who arrested accused in the house.

Five other letters written by other prisoners to their families, were found in accused's possession.

Accused had been in the service for 16 years.

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RUMJAHN COUSINS CARRIED TO 4 SETS; FIRST SEMI-FINAL

K. H. Ip Outstanding Player On Stand Court

Matches Veterans In All Phases

By "Adrem"

CURRENT OPINION was upset rather at Hong Kong Cricket Club yesterday when S. A. and H. D. Rumjahn, who have generally been considered to be in better form this season than they were last season, only managed to beat Ho Ka-lau and K. H. Ip by 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, in the first semi-final match in the Colony Tennis Championships.

The fact that the match lasted so long can be attributed to the magnificent display of young Ip. In this, his first year of Colony tournament play, he stood head and shoulders above the three other players—whose total experience of tournament tennis probably runs into something like 70 years.

This fact would not be so surprising in any place other than Hong Kong, but after watching these matches year after year with the same old players doing virtually as they liked to their youthful challengers, the advent this season of Ip and Choa does bring some hope for the future.

There is much in Ip's game that needs improving. He is very apt, through over-anxiety, to play shots that are obviously going out, and also to assume more of the play than he should, but time should eradicate these faults.

He played practically every shot in the book yesterday, his strokes carried more sting and his anticipation was good.

Ho had a bad match. His usually reliable, if not powerful, forehand drive would not work and his volley merely had the effect of keeping the ball in play, but he did the right thing and when the Rumjahns were being hard pressed, his lobbing had quite a lot to do with it. At best he served accurately although without much pace.

"H.D." Not Well?

I understand that H. D. Rumjahn was not feeling too well and this probably accounted for the fact that Sridar did most of the work in the first two sets. The latter, earlier, played as well as he has ever done, his fine recoveries and smooth strokes bringing many points, but when the opposition, in the second set, resorted to lobbing his smash went to bits and he noticeably lost confidence thereafter.

H. D. played well in the later stages and was cool under all circumstances but his play lacked much of the fire of last year. How much he was affected by his indisposition remains to be seen.

The Play

The Rumjahns had little difficulty in the first set, which they won for the loss of three games, after leading 3-0. In the second, when Ho and Ip started their lobbing tactics, they fell away somewhat and the Chinese pair led at 4—2 and had a good chance of taking the next game on Ho's service, when they led 30-15 and Ho was presented with an easy smash which he placed into the net. The Rumjahns reeled off the next four games for the set.

In the third set the Chinese, thanks to Ip's brilliance and Ho's lobbing, had little difficulty in winning at 6—2.

In the early stages of the fourth set it appeared possible that the scores would be levelled. Ho and Ip led 3—1 but the well-known Rumjahn fighting spirit then came to the fore and they wiped off the deficit and went on to 5—3. Leading 40—15 in the ninth game, the Rumjahns failed to take two match points and the score was 5—4. The champions made no mistake with the next game, however, and went out at 6—4.

Other Results

The following were the results of Club matches:—

H'cap Doubles (semi-final): T. C. Monaghan and T. J. Gould beat H. J. Armstrong and P. Wynter-Blyth 3-6, 6-2, 11-9.

H'cap Singles: R. E. Guest beat C. H. R. Oxlade 6-2, 7-5.

To-day's Matches

Following is to-day's Tennis Championship programme:

OPEN DOUBLES
Quarter-Final

W. C. Hung and E. C. Fincher v Tsui War-pui and Tsui Yan-pui (Stand Court).

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
Semi-Final

R. E. Guest v M. Pagh (8).

SOCCER INTERPORT DETAILS

By "Referee"

Arrangements for the Macao Soccer Interport are now complete and no less than 20 players have accepted the invitation of Hong Kong Football Association to make the trip.

The team will leave Hong Kong on the Sunday morning boat and return on Monday morning.

Unlike the hockey Interport Service men have been included in the party, among these being Bankier and Fraser of Royal Scots, Freshwater and Bright of Middlesex, and LePage, Hendy and Roughley of Royal Navy.

Mr T. G. Stokes will be in charge of the team and will be assisted by Mr. L. Souza, Assistant Hon. Secretary of Hong Kong Football Association.

K. H. IP.

H.K.F.A. TEAM SELECTED FOR SATURDAY

The following have been selected to represent the Association against the Federation in the final of the Governor's Cup match to be played at Club ground on Saturday, April 19, kick-off at 4 p.m.

Players are requested to report to Capt. R. E. Guest, manager of the Association team, in the dressing room at 3'30 p.m. sharp. Players unable to turn out are requested to communicate with the Secretary before Friday.

Jerseys, shorts and stockings will be supplied.

Bankier (R. Scots), Roughley (Navy), and Fraser (R. Scots), Freshwater (M'sex), Bright (M'sex), Thomas (M'sex); Fowler (Club), LePage (Navy), Howlett (Police), Ferrier (Police), Reertsen (Club).

Reserves:—Lapsley (Kowloon), Sheehan (M'sex), Blackburn (Police), Pope (Police), Hossack (R. Scots), Barber (Navy), Hendy (Navy).

EASTER STAKES WAS THRILLING RACE

By "Rapier"

RACING WAS CONTINUED on Monday and the main event was the Easter Stakes, and, before dealing with the other events, I propose setting down first my impressions of the running of this highly important event.

The excitement of the race will long be remembered; the performance of Oolong, which was admirably ridden by Mr. Needa, was magnificent.

In view of its previous win in record time in the Champions Stakes, Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) was made favourite, with Racylight (Mr. Wei) also highly-favoured. Oolong, on the other hand, was not conceded much of a chance.

Dupont Bay (Mr. Yuen), set a fast pace, with Racylight, Spicylight (Mr. Liang) and Oolong following behind. On the speed at the outset of the race it was apparent that the record would be smashed.

Just after passing the Rock, Mr. Needa sent Oolong forward to overhaul Racylight which by this time was leading, and on the home straight being reached Oolong was in front, with Confusion Bay and Spicylight in close attendance.

These three ponies were featured in a bitter struggle, victory eventually going to Oolong by a head. Confusion Bay was second and Spicylight third. As expected a new record was established.

Great Struggle

Returning to the other events, the result of the first race was a win for Mr. Wei on Longdon, after a great struggle with Roofly (Mr. Needa).

The third race, the Cabramatta Handicap (First Section) was the best race of the day. Catterick Bridge (Mr. Chao) and Cheerful Star (Mr. Proulx) dead-heating for first place.

Catterick Bridge set a fast pace and was followed by Cheerful Star and Double Finesse (Mr. Tao). This order was maintained until 50 yards from the post, when Cheerful Star caught Catterick Bridge, the two ponies finishing together. Double Finesse was third a short head behind.

Another Record

In the Albury Handicap for "A" Class Australian ponies, from the 1½ Mile Post, another record was established, this time by Distant View (Mr. Pih).

I cannot understand why Sapper (Mr. Proulx) should have been made favourite. Good as this pony is, I expected that the distance would be too short for its liking, and this was substantiated, the pony being unplaced.

Distant View took the lead, followed by Sapper and Endeavour (Mr. Wei). On rounding the bend Distant View was still leading, but Sapper was passed by Endeavour. Mr. Wei tried his hardest to catch Distant View but failed by half a length. Meanwhile Vanity Fair (Mr. Black) came up with a last-minute rush to take third place from Sapper.

Favourite Fails

Backed to the extent of 2,704 tickets for a win, Manhattan failed badly in the Wattle Park Handicap over six furlongs. Moonlight's win was not altogether unexpected.

Bendemeer (Mr. Hoo Pak-ming) took the lead, followed by National Welfare (Mr. Chang) and Moonlight. On rounding the bend Moonlight responded to Mr. Wei's call and forged ahead to pass the leaders and win by a length from A Surprising Time (Mr. Black), with the favourite, Manhattan, third another half-length behind.

So Nice, Mr. Tang up, caused a big surprise in winning the Kellett Handicap (Second Section), coming home an easy winner to pay $67.30, the best dividend of the meeting.

Musketeer (Mr. R. K. C. Chun) made the running from the start, followed by Advancing Time (Mr. Black) and Night Express (Mr. Ip Kui-ving). Night Express was leading on rounding the bend, but was strongly challenged by So Nice. The latter went into the lead at the Two Mile Post to win by many lengths. Odeon (Mr. Tu) was third.

Mr. Wood Causes Surprise

In the Coolgardie Stakes (Second Section), over the Two Mile Post, punters were given another surprise when Mr. Wood brought in Wayworth to pay the second best win dividend of the afternoon. Harmony Star (Mr. S. W. Lee) took the lead, but on rounding the bend was overhauled by Bendigo (Mr. S. W. Pan), followed by Angel of Glory (Mr. Chao) and Bugle (Mr. Wei).

On coming into the straight Bugle went forward to take the lead but Wayworth, coming up strongly on the outside, passed it and went on to win by three lengths. Bendigo was third.

Bitter Pill

Punters had barely recovered from the shock of the previous race when they were called upon to swallow another bitter pill in the second section of the Cabramatta Handicap.

This time Mr. Chang caused the upset on National Courage, which brought off a fine win.

MIDDLEWEIGHT DIVISION IN BOXING BECOMES KNOWN AS MUDDLEWEIGHT

THE MIDDLEWEIGHT division has been in such a muddle for the last decade that fistic fans refer to the 160-pounders as muddleweights, writes Dillon Graham from New York.

Except for short periods the National Boxing Association, the New York commission and other state commissions have been at odds over so-called world champions during most of that stretch.

All boxing authorities can agree on only three world champions—Heavyweight Joe Louis, Light Heavyweight Billy Conn and Bantamweight Lou Salica—but none of the divisions have been quite so puzzling as the muddleweights since Mickey Walker withdrew to take on the heavyweights in 1931.

Just to show you how things went we'll trace the middleweight championship trail back to Walker.

Thil Supported

The N.B.A. ordered an elimination tournament to determine Walker's successor. New York did too. Gorilla Jones technically knocked out Addone Piazza to gain N.B.A. recognition. Ben Jeby grabbed New York designation by defeating Chick Devlin in 1932.

The N.B.A. went along with Marcel Thil when he won from Jones on a foul in France.

The New York version of the title passed in succession through little matches from Jeby to Lou Brouillard to Vince Dundee.

When Thil, as former President Harvey L. Miller of the N.B.A. explains it, "couldn't lose in Paris and won fight after fight on fouls (when no fouls were committed)," the N.B.A. voted to withdraw title recognition and recognised the bout between Dundee and Teddy Yarosz for the title.

Yarosz beat Dundee and was champion of both N.B.A. and New York. The crown passed from Yarosz to Babe Risko and on to Freddie Steele.

Then the two commissions forked off again on separate title roads.

The N.B.A. continued Steele as champion but New York withdrew recognition when Steele refused to fight its candidate, Fred Apostoli, in New York.

Apostoli had technically knocked out Steele in a non-title fight and previously had knocked out Thil.

The New York commission decided that Apostoli and Young Corbett would fight for the crown. Apostoli knocked out Corbett. Ceferino Garcia beat Apostoli and Ken Overlin won from Garcia.

Steele risked his N.B.A. title against Al Hostak and was knocked out. Solly Krieger kayoed Hostak and was then knocked out by Hostak in a return match. Tony Zale recently won from Hostak.

If a Zale-Overlin match can be arranged a generally accepted champion would emerge. Even then Billy Soose would have to be considered for he has scored non-title decisions over both Zale and Overlin.—Associated Press.

NEW P.O. CLUB BOWLS CONVENER

J. W. Hudson, who was bowls convener for the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last summer, has gone to Australia on four months' leave. The new convener for this Summer is S. Hodge, who has already arranged two intra-Club games, in preparation for the coming season.

TILDEN APPROACHING HIS HALF-CENTURY

POSSESSES A "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH"

THE MAN HAS KEPT his secret long enough. A committee of citizens should go to William Tatum Tilden, the Twice, and demand that he reveal the location of the Fountain of Youth, writes Henry McLemore.

If he wants a price for the whereaoouts of the spring whose waters guarantee a perpetual bloom to the cheeks and an unceasing bounce in the legs, then the insurance companies should pool their resources and meet his demands.

Tilden Succeeds

You must agree with me that William Tatum Tilden has succeeded where Ponce de Leon failed. Else how in the world are you going to explain the supernatural endurance of the long-legged, lantern jawed tennis player from Philadelphia? By all normal athletic standards, he should be wearing congress garters, peering with rheumy eyes over spectacles, and indulging in no more violent exercise than thumbing his clippings.

But where is the man? In some quiet retreat, spinning tales of how he felt when he won the No. 1 ranking in 1920? No, he is out banging and barnstorming around the country with a group of youngsters who were playing drop the handkerchief, London Bridge is Falling Down, and making mud pies when he was the world's greatest tennis player.

It was an announcement in the paper that he would play with Alice Marble in a few weeks that turned my thoughts to big Bill. The blurb said, among other things, that Bill was celebrating his 48th birthday, which, if you care to remember, is the third time in three years he has celebrated his 48th birthday. He seems to like the number 48. Having reached it, he apparently has decided to make it his very own. This gives him three legs on it.

Miss Marble Featured

Miss Marble was featured in the publicity, and I think the company's press agent is missing a good bet in not playing up Tilden as the star of the troupe. Not in the time of those now living will tennis lovers see the equal of Big Bill. The Perrys, the Vines, the Budges, and all the rest are marvellous players, but Tilden stands alone.

All you have to do to prove how he stands alone is to ask where his contemporaries in the golden-twenties are to-day. Bobby Jones is a comfortably plump lawyer in Atlanta, Babe Ruth is an uncomfortably fat watcher from the sidelines, Jack Dempsey is a heavy-jowled restaurateur in New York, Tommy Hitchcock has laid down the mallet to become a Wall Streeter. Jim Londos is wrestling punks on the kerosene circuit. Charlie Paddock's interests in spikes are limited to those on his newspaper desk. These, and others, were the men who made of the 1920's what Paul Gallico so aptly called the "Golden Decade in sports."

Tilden Carries On

Of them all, only Tilden carries on, and he doesn't carry on in a doddering, pathetic fashion, either. How many tennis players are there in the world who could beat him in a one-set match to-day? Budge might, and the redhead is about the only one. And in a five-set, regulation match, there aren't more than half a dozen players you'd care to bet on to lick the Philadelphian. His legs are still spry enough to make him a fine coverer, and what his legs lack is more than made up by what he carries around in that head of his. As long ago as 1918 Tilden was No. 2 in national ranking—23 years—but still he continues to play and play well. Indoor courts, clay courts, en-toutcas courts, grass courts, cement courts, good lights, bad lights, they are all the same to him.

When he reaches my town I want to see him. It may be my last chance before the Smithsonian Institute scouts pick him up and put him in a glass cage next to Eli Whitney's cotton gin. Too, I want a slug of that Fountain of Youth water he carries around in his canteen. And I'll take it straight.

TENNIS ENTRIES EXTENDED

As only a small number of tennis League entries were received up to yesterday, the closing date has been extended to April 23.

MACAO TEAM BEATEN

A scratch hockey team, comprising players from Central British Association, Police and Recreio, beat Macao Lyceum 2-0 on the C.B.A. ground yesterday.

The local team scored in the first half, Taylor converting a short-corner. Yvanovich broke through in the second half to add the second goal.

The local team was:—T. L. Lockhart (C.B.A.); J. B. Gonsalves (Recreio), A. M. Xavier (Nomads); J. Heywood (Police), C. Gough (Police), A. M. Alves (Recreio); P. Yvanovich (Recreio), D. Taylor (C.B.A.), N. D. Whitley (C.B.A.), J. Fonseca (Recreio), A. Odell (C.B.A.).

CORRESPONDENCE

To The Sports Editor,
"The China Mail".

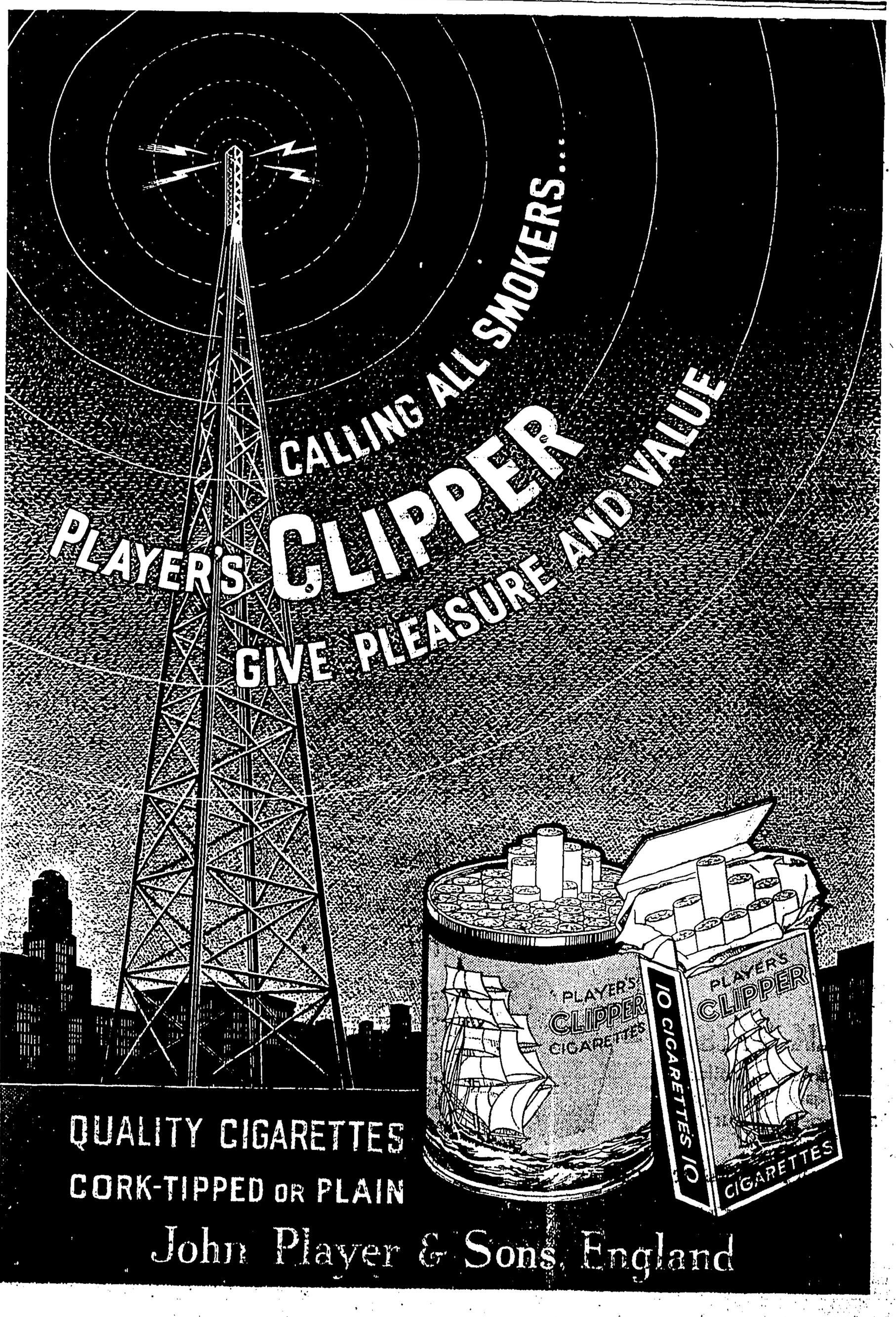
Sir—It has been brought to my attention that Pte. Noble, Middlesex Regiment, who is the Army lightweight boxing champion on this Station, is ready to meet anyone in the Colony who can make the weight.

I, as holder of the bantam-featherweight titles, would like to meet Noble over 15 three-minute rounds.

I can find a promoter to stage the fight and if Noble is interested I shall be glad if he will accept my challenge in your column.

And while I am on the subject of boxing, I am greatly disappointed that Len Collins has so far failed to sign the contract for a fight with me, although a promoter has already been found.

Sal Aromin



ITALIAN GENERAL CAPTURED ON A MULE!

End Of East African Campaign Within Sight

Little Left To Do Except Round Up Prisoners

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent at Addis Abbaba)

GENERAL PESANTI, ITALIAN DIVISIONAL COMMANDER WHOSE CAPTURE WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY, WAS OVERTAKEN BY IMPERIAL FORCES WHEN PLODDING ALONG ON A MULE BETWEEN A REMOTE VILLAGE AND ADDIS ABABA.

He is now occupying the bedroom of General Santini, who has been removed to an unknown destination.

Another prisoner is Colonel Rolle, leader of the notorious banda (native) group. He, with a staff of 11 officers and 700 banda, was captured near the Awash River by two South African subalterns (one of whom was a grandson of General Botha) and 17 men.

Two enemy bodies, 600 strong, approaching to surrender from different directions, and with nerves on edge, opened fire on each other.

Six were killed before a South African regiment intervened and took them prisoner.

British columns are now at the heels of the retreating Italians in three main sectors, namely Mussolini Pass, 100 miles from Addis Ababa on the Dessie road, in the heart of the Arussia Mountains east of the Abyssinian lakes, and on the Omo River, on the way to Jimma.

Melting Away

Abyssinian patriots are increasingly helping to disintegrate the Duke of Aosta's forces. They are showing restraint, however, and are permitting the Italians to reach the British lines.

A colonel of the Transvaal Regiment met an army of 10,000 patriots headed 6 foot 3 inches Ras Gurassu, who informed him the South Africans' flank was threatened by two Italian battalions.

The colonel thereupon sent a letter to the Italians threatening to attack with "my big guns, tanks and Gurassu." The Italians melted away overnight. Reuter.

Ceaseless Streams Of Prisoners

A ceaseless stream of Italian prisoners continues to come in at Addis Ababa although the Italian troops were evacuated from there.

Several battalions have been taken complete.

A communique issued in Nairobi says that Italian native units are losing numbers of deserters and in one case these formed themselves into bands which are operating independently against the Italians now. — Reuter.

DUKE OF AOSTA SUING FOR SURRENDER?

It was learned in well-informed quarters in Cairo yesterday that an envoy of the Duke of Aosta, Viceroy of Abyssinia, has arrived at the headquarters of General Cunningham, who is directing British operations in East Africa. -Reuter.

STOP PRESS

Seven cases of cholera — three from Kowloon, two from Shaukiwan, and one each from Victoria and the harbour were notified yesterday.

Reports reaching Washington from Chungking announcing that Russia has notified China that her pact with Japan will not affect Soviet assistance for China have not surprised official Washington and have been received with satisfaction.

This picture of Russia, so to speak, running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, is seen as only typical of the confused political situation in which Russia finds herself to-day, though obviously it is no wit more confused than Japan's situation, for Tokyo shakes hands with Russian Communism on one hand and fights alleged Communism in China with the other.

It is felt in Washington that it is against this curious background that the sincerity of the Russo-Japanese Pact must be judged.

Because of this, a number of observers feel that the Pact does not establish the security along the Manchukuo border which alone would permit Japan to withdraw any considerable body of troops either to reinforce the China Army or for use on other adventures elsewhere in Asia.

While the reasons for signing the Pact are still not apparent, it is generally taken for granted that it does not materially change the position in the Pacific or in East Asia and Mr. Hull's statement that the significance of the Pact can be over-estimated seems to size up the situation.

Definitely the Pact has done Russia harm in her U.S. relations and there has been overnight a change of feeling in the State Department.

Symptomatic of this is the action concerning a reception at the Soviet Embassy on Sunday. Many officials of the State Department accepted invitations with official approval, but are not now attending.

It is reliably learned that the agreement between U.S. and China concerning assistance under the Lend-Lease Act will be signed before the end of the week — Reuter.

IMMIGRATION REPORT RUMOURS

THIS MORNING IT WAS AUTHORITATIVELY LEARNED THAT THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION WHICH INQUIRED INTO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE IMMIGRATION OFFICER, MR. R. A. D. FORREST, AND HIS STAFF, HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Reports in circulation that the Immigration Officer has been "exonerated from blame" by the findings of the Commission, failed to draw confirmation or denial in Government quarters.

The Hon. Mr. N. L. Smith, Colonial Secretary, replying to the "China Mail," said: "I cannot say anything about that. The report has been sent to the Governor, but no action has yet been taken."

"PATIENCE" WITH BADLANDS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Mr. W. J. Keswick, Chairman of the S.M.C., is to ask the public to have "patience" with vice in the western "badlands" at the annual Ratepayers Meeting to-day.

The speech contains a request for authority to raise $9,000,000 by issuing debentures. — International News Service.

Interesting Decision

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

U.S. ARMY RECRUITING OFFICES HAVE NOTIFIED THAT THE USUAL PROTECTIVE CLAUSE IN ENLISTMENT PAPERS AGAINST OVERSEAS SERVICE HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.—INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE.

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